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See Page 9



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CONTENTS

Commercial Jet Crew sights  
Unidentified Object — Part 2  
Dr. Richard F. Haines ..... 2

Dr. Felix Zigel' and the  
development of ufology  
in Russia  
Gordon Creighton ..... 9

Cheesefoot Head Mystery  
Rings  
Pat Delgado ..... 13

The Brightening of the  
Chinese UFO scene  
Charles Bowen ..... 16

"Hamburger" with  
lights over Poole  
Leslie Harris ..... 18

FSR Bookshelf — 13  
Janet & Colin Bord ..... 20

Humanoids in the  
Forest of Marsois  
Lionel Danizel, *et al* ..... 22

World Round-up ..... 25

Mail Bag ..... 26

A 1949 Brazilian Contactee  
— Part 1  
Richard W. Heiden ..... 28

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page ii of cover



WHO'S COVERING-UP?

ON Thursday, March 4, 1982, the Earl of Clancarty asked a "starred question" in the House of Lords. The gist of his question was: "How many reports of UFOs have been received by the Ministry of Defence during the last four years, 1978 to 1981, and what action has been taken about them?"

At the time of writing this leading article we have seen only two of the newspapers carrying reports of what followed. These were in *The Times* and the *Daily Mail*, both of March 5th. Let us take the *Mail's* short report first. The tone was wholly serious, with a few facts stated concisely. It opened with a bald statement: "Cover-ups by the Defence Ministry of UFO sightings were denied by a Defence Minister yesterday."

The report then went on to reveal that a former Chief of the Defence Staff, [Admiral] Lord Hill-Norton, told the House that records of sightings before 1962 had been destroyed "... because someone had decided they were 'of no interest.'" The Minister, Lord Long, pointed out that since 1967 all UFO reports have been preserved. Before that, he said, the five-year destruction rule was generally applied. And in reply to Lord Clancarty (formerly the Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench), Lord Long said there had been 2,250 reports [sent to the Ministry of Defence] of sightings of UFOs.

In *The Times*, however, we found an entirely different approach, for the Parliamentary Correspondent of this august newspaper — so proud, once-upon-a-time, to be known as "The Thunderer" — chose to adopt an all-too-familiar tone of light banter. (This, we gathered, was the line taken by a number of peers who spoke on the issue.) Lord Clancarty, we were told, cherished the "... romantic notion that the Ministry of Defence has a secret file on little green men that it is trying to hide from the rest of us." And we learned that Lord Long replied that the Government's only interest in UFOs was whether or not they "might be manned by 'little red men' with unpleasant intentions towards our defences." At least that is how *The Times* reported it. Fortunately we were given break-down details of the number of reports submitted in those four years: 750 in 1978; 550 in 1979; 350 in 1980; 600 in 1981.

It was here that Lord Clancarty further pressed his point, for according to *The Times* he asserted "... with endearing faith in the accuracy of newspaper reports" [bear that in mind for just one paragraph — ED] that in 1981 there had been more than 2,000 authenticated UFO reports in the national press. Were they passed to the Defence Ministry, and if so, what happened to them? Reading on we learned that Lord Long's fervent denials of Ministry "shenanigans" led some to believe there might be "something more in this than meets the eye."

There was much more besides, mostly in a vein calculated to raise a smile. There was something, however, that was missing from the report in *The Times*: there was not a whisper, let alone a mention, of the support

given to Lord Clancarty by the former Chief of the Defence Staff, Lord Hill-Norton, or of his implication that he didn't know what happened to UFO reports after they arrived at the Ministry of Defence. Now surely, if there are — for example — UFO reports made by service officers or men, then a Chief of the Defence Staff should know of their existence, and that in some of them there could well be “more than met the eye,” but that someone — before the Admiral's time as Chief of Staff — had decided they were “of no interest.” (Some readers will recall BBC's *Man Alive* programme in February 1972 when, after a summary of the puzzling, indeed astounding, events at Lakenheath in 1956 had been related, the Ministry of Defence spokesman who was taking part, was pressed about the official reports of the extremely important affair. His blustered reply was that the “... reports had been destroyed.” At the time that sounded very convenient for someone intent on hiding the facts from the public gaze.)

So we may assume that that authoritative newspaper, *The Times*, under a cloak of mild frivolity, did a little bit of covering-up of its own by not letting slip a mention that a former Chief of Defence Staff, who was

puzzled by what happened to UFO reports once they reached the Ministry of Defence, had chosen to support Lord Clancarty. We are well aware that most of the 2,250 reports over four years are reports of mundane things, or of celestial bodies. But some of them are not, and whispers that emerge from the Ministry of Defence have it that some of them are very strange indeed, which is why Lord Hill-Norton's “someone”, and perhaps *The Times* as well, considered the public should in no way be encouraged to think on these matters.

#### Postscript:

On March 10, 1982, five days after the House of Lords question the BBC2 *Out of Court* programme featured Lord Clancarty, Lord Kimberley (whose latest airship was on view) and other peers, at Cardington. There was also a separate interview with Lord Hill-Norton who stated that the evidence was enough to show that there was a cover-up, and that things had even been kept from him when he was Chief of Defence Staff. He pointed out that he would not be speaking in front of the TV cameras if he had been made party to them!

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## COMMERCIAL JET CREW SIGHTS UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT — Part 2

*Richard F. Haines*

**I**N the first part of this article it was related, in detail, how the captain (Captain “P.S.”) of a wide-body L1011 jet airliner which was flying over Lake Michigan on airway J-34, saw an apparently round metallic-appearing object suddenly “... splash into view, full size,” and swing close by on the aircraft's port side. The sighting lasted about five seconds: the first officer also saw something ... a “very bright light flash” during the last second or so of the encounter.

#### Details of the investigation

The author was first called by the captain on July 10, 1981, about his sighting. The brief telephone conversation established the basic facts.

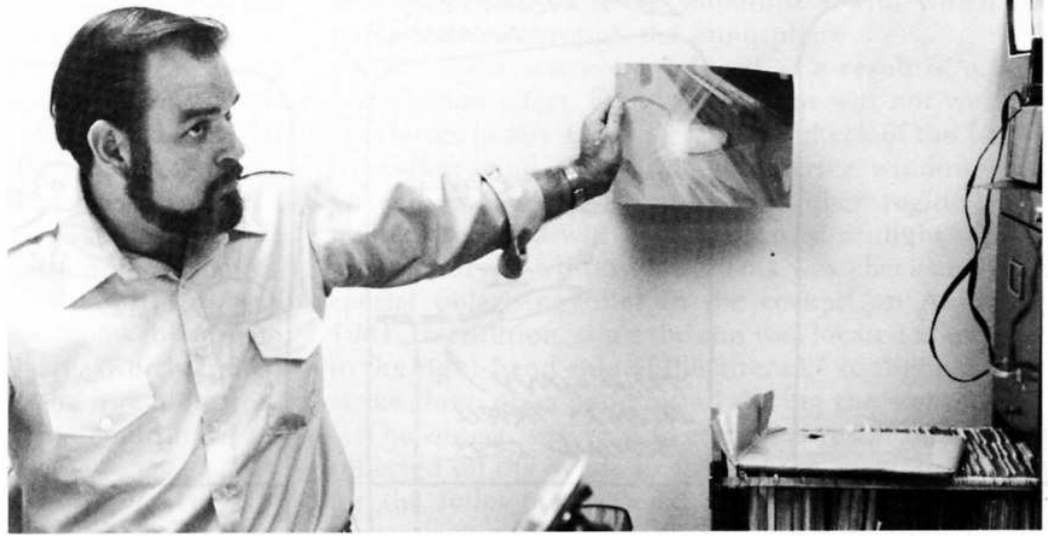
A pilot report form was filled out by the captain and received on July 11th. A personal in-depth interview was held on July 30th in the presence of Al Reed, a professional graphic artist as well as a MUFON field investigator. Together we worked to help the witness first recognise and then reconstruct the shape, surface details, and orientation of the object he had reported. After several hours, a colour air-brush rendition of the basic object was achieved by Reed. This illustration is

Date of Sighting: July 4, 1981
Time of Sighting: 20.45 GMT (16.45 CDST)
Location of Sighting: South central Lake Michigan
Duration of Sighting: Approx. 5 seconds
Number of UFOs: one
Number of Witnesses: two

presented as Figure 5; it represents the appearance of the disc when it was at position 5 in the next illustration (Figure 6).

The intense flash of light is depicted and is thought to have come from a reflection of sunlight since the geometry of the sun, aircraft, and object was correct to produce such a reflection. Captain P.S. was also loaned a colour chart to take along on a flight following the same flight path. He was to try to visually match the sky colours if possible. This was accomplished during the week of August 3rd. The appearance of the sky seen in the upper half of the aircraft's forward window was most nearly matched by a medium blue (Pantone 292-A) shade<sup>4</sup> while the next

**Figure 5:**  
The artist, Al Reed, shows the witness one version of a colour impression of the object.



horizontal band of sky about 1/4th of the full window's height just below the top half was most nearly colour-matched by the same (blue) tone but about two shades lighter (Pantone 291-A). The hazy sky seen in the bottom 1/4th of the forward window was most nearly colour-matched to an off-white (Pantone Cool Gray 1-M).

The author and the captain met at San Francisco International Airport on August 7, 1981 and spent several hours in the cockpit of an L1011 aircraft. Many black and white photographs were obtained as well as tape recordings; the captain made hand sketches of the object's outline at various window projection positions. These sketches were made on clear acetate sheets taped to the windshield's surface. Figure 6 is an approximate reduced copy of these two sheets and surrounding window posts/frames. It should be remembered that: (1) each outline (of the UFO) was drawn as it appeared to the captain with his eyes located in the (approximately) same location as they were during the sighting. Therefore, both the general path of apparent object motion relative to the windows is represented as is the approximate apparent size of the object. (2) all sketches are estimated to be

within  $\pm 0.5$  inch of the original window projection position for the UFO, (3) outline 1 corresponds with the captain's head as located in Figure 1; outline 2 — Figure 2; outline 3 and 4 — Figure 3; for outline 5 the captain indicated that his right cheek was pressed against the top-front of the glare shield; and outline 6 — Figure 4, and (4) a number of carefully repeated reconstructions of the sighting showed that the entire event lasted about five seconds. The approximate duration separating each observation period corresponding to these six sketches is given in Figure 7.

In order to try to derive the apparent size of the object at each of these six (sketched) positions, the linear distance from the bridge of the captain's nose to the centre of each sketch was measured to  $\pm 5$ mm. accuracy. These values permitted trigonometry calculations to be made. A plot of the object's apparent change in length is given in Figure 7. It also shows the approximate elapsed time between each observation.

It is seen that the apparent size of the object changed by a factor of four to one, i.e., from about five to twenty degrees arc during the sighting. These windshield sketches (and subsequent calculations) support the general finding of a rapidly enlarging and

A NASA scientist, Dr. Haines has contributed several articles to the pages of *Flying Saucer Review*, and we are pleased to add to the list this excellent report of a recent observation from a commercial aircraft over the United States. Dr. Haines, who is a member of the Center for UFO Studies founded by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, writes that he has recently concluded spectral analyses of the Valentich (Australian pilot missing with his aircraft after UFO encounter) voice-ATC tape. A paper on this is due to appear in *The Journal of UFO Studies*. His published works include his book *Observing UFOs*, and an anthology, edited by him, entitled *UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist*.

EDITOR

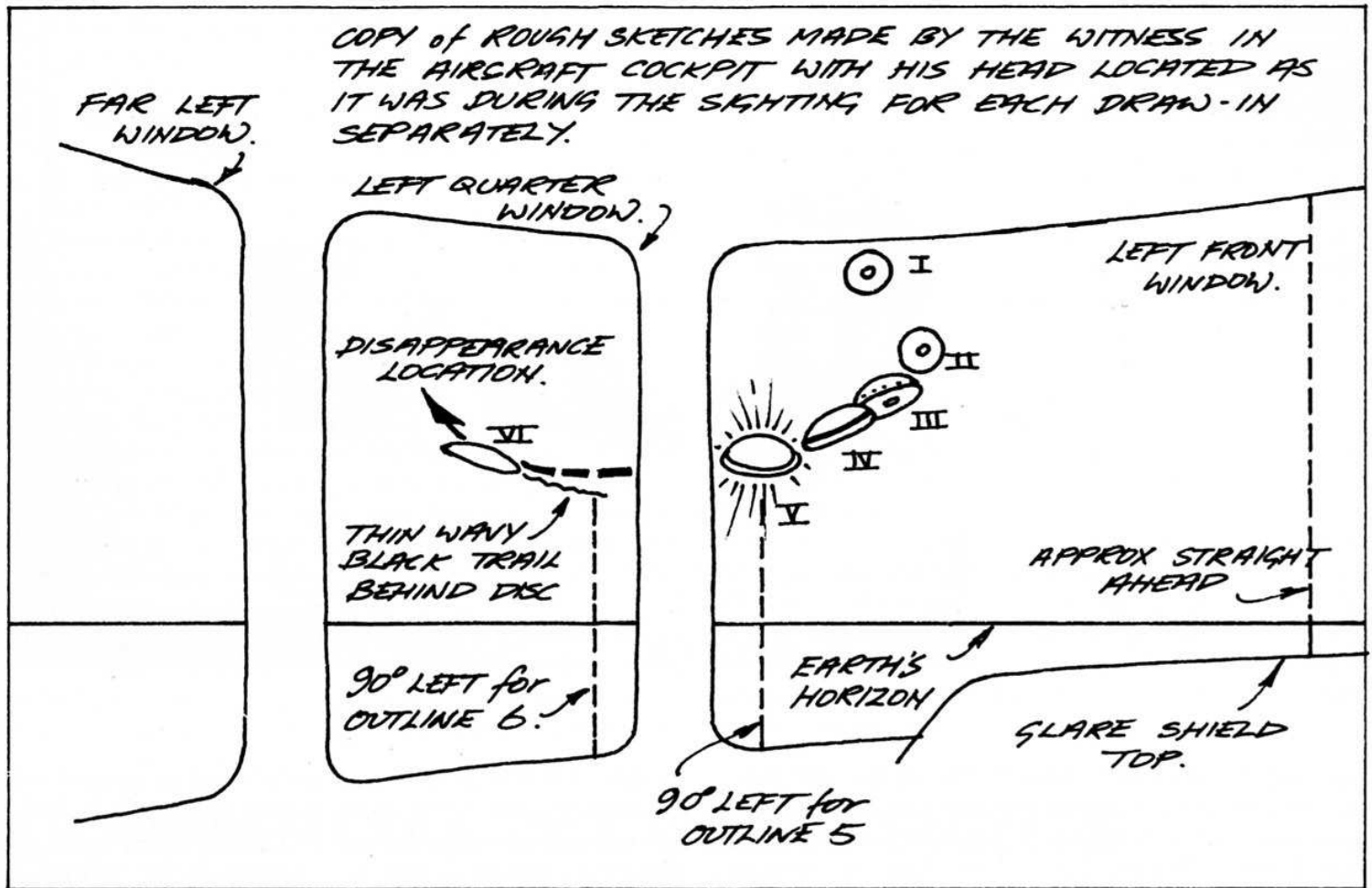


Figure 6.

then diminishing aerial object with the largest apparent dimension occurring about mid-way through the sighting.

According to his report form, the captain did not see the object change acceleration or give off smoke or vapour; it did not flicker, throb, pulse, change colour, nor break into parts. It did not appear on any radar units to his knowledge either.<sup>5</sup>

**Specific Visual Impressions of the Object:** The captain remarked on several occasions about the appearance of the object and the sky around it when it was in position 5 (see Figure 6). He said that he saw a fan-shaped region extending out from the rear side of the object, i.e., back in the direction it had just come which was of a much darker blue than the rest of the sky. He had the distinct impression of being able to see "... way out into space" inside this area. He did not remember seeing any such effect in the other locations. He also recalled seeing six jet black, round "portholes" spaced along its edge (see position 3) as it rolled into an edge-on attitude. About one-half second later it had rolled further so as to be seen directly from the side. He was quite certain that the black port-holes were no longer visible as separate, sharply defined circles but now seemed blurred together into one long, dark smear. It was about one second later

when the object had continued its roll even further that the captain remembers seeing an extremely interesting phenomenon. At this point he could see the top surface of the object which was shaped like a shallow cone.

With his right cheek pressed up against the glare shield, his head craning 90 degrees to the left, and his

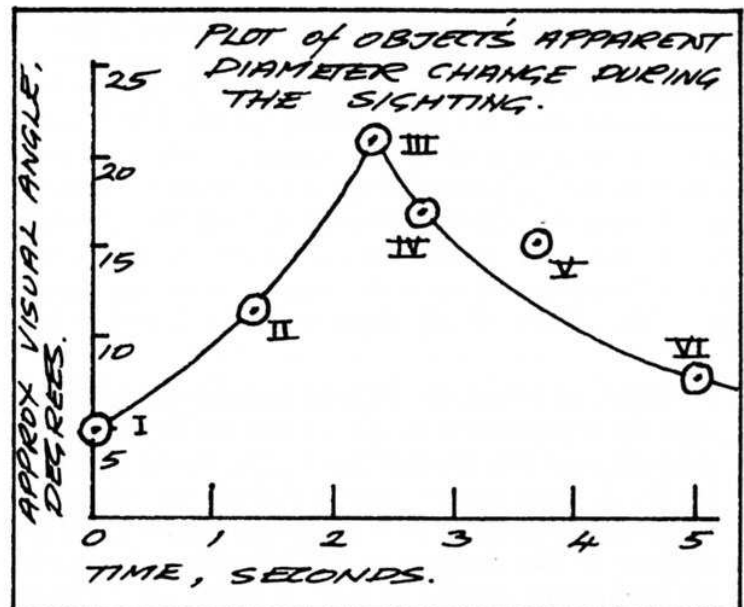


Figure 7.

line of sight just passing the right side of the left window post, he recalled seeing a very intense flash of white light emanating from the top left side of the object. This flash was brief and may have been due to a reflection of sunlight off the smooth reflecting (top) surface. Yet he recalled another visual experience either before, during, or just after this flash. He called it a "cobweb-like effect." Despite over an hour's attempt with the artist to find an acceptably similar example of this irregular pattern of semi-transparent radiating and crossing lines, our efforts proved unsuccessful. The closest visual effect found was produced by the artist air brushing many straight-line segments to represent the edges of transparent glass panes, some of which intersected (and even passed through) each other. Curiously, none of these "cobweb" phenomena entered into the fan-shaped area which trailed behind the object (i.e., back toward the direction from which the object had just come). What could have accounted for this unusual visual effect?

One suggestion was that, because of the very intense and brief flash of light from the object, the captain had seen the rather well known "entoptic" retinal blood vessel pattern reflection. In other words, the light flash had made it possible for him to see a temporary image of his own retinal blood vessels which originate from the "blind spot" and radiate along tortuous paths, becoming smaller and smaller in diameter, until they are no longer visible at some angular distance from the point where the observer is looking. An ophthalmic fundus photograph of a typical retinal blood vessel pattern was shown to the captain to see if it was at all similar to what he recalls seeing. It was not.

Another suggestion made to the author by a colleague at the Boeing Airplane Company in Seattle was that the captain may have witnessed an atmospheric effect that is well known to many pilots of certain high performance aircraft. The effect is that of sheets of vapour that originate over a wing during high speed flight. The effect occurs for the B747 wing among other type of aircraft and is produced by air pressure rarefaction which creates sheets or panes of water vapour which become visible in the sunlight.<sup>6</sup> If this suggestion is the correct one it suggests that the object was in the process of making an accelerating turn, one condition required to produce the rarefaction effect. That the object very likely was turning very rapidly is supported by other calculations presented below.

Referring to sketch number six in Figure 6, the captain also recalls seeing a "... thin, wavy black trail" extending behind the object as the object grew smaller and smaller in the left quarter window. He was so impressed with the appearance of the silvery object and its behaviour that he did not recall very much other detail of the surrounding sky or conditions within the cockpit. This is to be expected under the circumstances.

When he was asked about how large the object was, the captain simply said that there was no way of knowing for sure. Nevertheless, when pressed, he offered the statement that it "... could have been as large as a major league baseball stadium." He was very impressed with the smoothness with which the object moved through the atmosphere

The object was not produced as a result of a light polarisation effect. First, the captain was not wearing eyeglasses of any kind. Secondly, a check of the L1011 front (left-hand side) and left quarter windows had virtually no visible striations or other regions normally associated with polarisation of sunlight (due to stress patterns within glass). This was checked with a special polarising filter in the cockpit on August 7, 1981. In addition, since the sun was located above and to the right-hand side of the aircraft,<sup>7</sup> sunlight did not strike these glass panes at all during the sighting.

The object was very likely not a result of sunlight reflected off the inside surfaces of the cockpit windows for the following reasons. First, a careful geometric reconstruction of the sun's position relative to the cockpit windows on the right-hand side showed that only a small area of sunlight entered these windows. Inspection of the cockpit structure in this region showed no highly reflective surfaces that could have caused such a complex image that moved from right to left. To illustrate this, Figure 8 is a wide angle photograph of the entire L1011 cockpit showing this right window region. Secondly, even if some internal structure could have caused this visual image, the air was calm, the aircraft remained on autopilot control in both heading and pitch, and yet the captain indicated that the object passed through an arc of at least 70 degrees during the sighting. Additionally, the left front windshield is a curved surface while the left quarter window is almost flat. This combination of (reflecting) surfaces makes it unlikely that the object's motion, as described, could have been caused by a moving bright light inside the cockpit.

The third reason why the object was probably not an internal reflection off the windows is that the percentage of light that is reflected from this window glass is at most 6 per cent (more likely 4-5 per cent) with the majority passing through the glass to the outside. Any light source within the cockpit would have had to be very bright indeed to be seen as a flash as bright as sunlight. No such interior lights could be identified in this aircraft.

Finally, both witnesses remarked to the author independently that they thought the object was outside the cockpit. Part of this belief for the captain is based upon his firm knowledge that the object disappeared behind the window post momentarily as it travelled in a smooth and continuous manner from his right to left.

**How did the Object Disappear?** Significantly, the captain was certain that the object did not simply pass





**Figure 8: Panorama view of the cockpit of the L1011 on the aircraft centreline.**

*Photo: R. F. Haines.*

out of sight behind his aircraft as would occur if a free floating balloon had been passed in flight. Instead, he was sure that he last saw the object almost centered in his left quarter window, becoming smaller and smaller while in a "shallow climb." The simple geometry of these details points assuredly away from a simple balloon explanation. Yet there is another observational detail that supports this interpretation, namely, the fact that the object appeared to descend to the approximate altitude of the aircraft and then level off. Because the aircraft remained on autopilot control, the pitch or roll attitude of the aircraft did not change to cause such an appearance (of external object relative motion). Whether or not there is some connection between the appearance of the short, wavy black line behind the object as it was departing, is not known.

#### **Object Flight Path reconstruction<sup>8</sup>**

When the relative bearing of the object is plotted, the ground track and speed of the aircraft are included, and the head position of the captain is taken into account, it is possible to reconstruct the approximate flight path of the object through the atmosphere. Since the actual dimensions of the object are not

known, this value is arbitrarily chosen (at 250 feet width). Also, the variation in the temporal intervals between each of the six windshield sketches adds to the plotting error. The results of this reconstruction are given in Figure 9; the aircraft's flight path is shown by the long dashed line and the object's by the short dashed line. It can be seen that the object approached the aircraft on an interception course at a high velocity, slowed down at its closest approach of perhaps 650 feet (dependant upon actual size of the object) and then accelerated away as shown. While the object seemed to leave travelling to the left, relative to the windows, it actually departed in the same direction as the aircraft was travelling. This visual effect was caused simply by the fact that the aircraft had a higher forward velocity than did the object, thus causing the object to appear to fall behind.

It is extremely challenging to try to find a terrestrial aircraft explanation for this sighting, in light of all of the above facts. The captain was a Navy fighter pilot who was familiar with all types of interceptor aircraft. He was certain it was not any kind of aircraft he had seen before, not did he think he saw a balloon. Did he impute an extraterrestrial explanation actually to having seen a conventional aircraft (perhaps due to

some psychological, stress-related, or other reason)? This possibility deserves further comment.

### A Brief Psychological Profile for the Witness

The fact that captain P.S. had logged more than 21,000 hours over his 31 flying career indicates several things of importance. He was a careful planner who had an aviation career in mind for a long time. He had flown the SNJ, F4U, F9F-2, and F2H aircraft in the Navy and had logged hundreds of flight hours in each of these aircraft types: DC-3, DC-4, B707, B747, and the L-1011. One does not get to be the captain of a commercial wide-body jet aircraft without demonstrating such traits as intelligence, command decision-making, successful stress-coping behaviour, and social ability. This author found all of these traits in the witness. In addition, captain P.S. was precise in his details, had excellent uncorrected vision (as determined by numerous vision exams), and was not prone to make unwarranted conclusions about what he had experienced.

During an interview, the captain was asked what books and movies he had read and seen about UFOs, he replied, "Well, I'm not interested in such things. I did look at a UFO paperback my son had (before the sighting) and I did see Star Wars I, Star Wars II, and Close Encounters of a Strange Kind... or something like that." The witness had never seen anything prior to this sighting that would qualify as a UFO sighting and certainly was not looking for some sort of flying disc-like object.

Nevertheless, when the author asked him what he thought the object was he replied that it must have been some sort of "space ship." He also referred to the jet black circles along the edge of the object as "port-holes," indicating that he interpreted it to be a material craft of some kind. To him, these were not unwarranted conclusions but, rather, were entirely consistent with what he had seen. He made this interpretation without any apology or discomfort; he was comfortable with his statement. Captain P.S. believes that some form of life "probably exists" in outer space. He has no difficulty in accepting the possibility that our planet is being visited by such life forms.

### Auxiliary Investigations

The Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Illinois and the Phenomena Research Organisation in Seattle, Washington were contacted during the week of July 20th to see if anyone else had reported a UFO in the southwest corner of Michigan. In addition, a check was made with the Aviation Safety Reporting Office at Ames Research Center about the possibility that a pilot report had been made. All three efforts proved unsuccessful. The Center for UFO Studies was called a second time on September 1, 1981, with negative re-

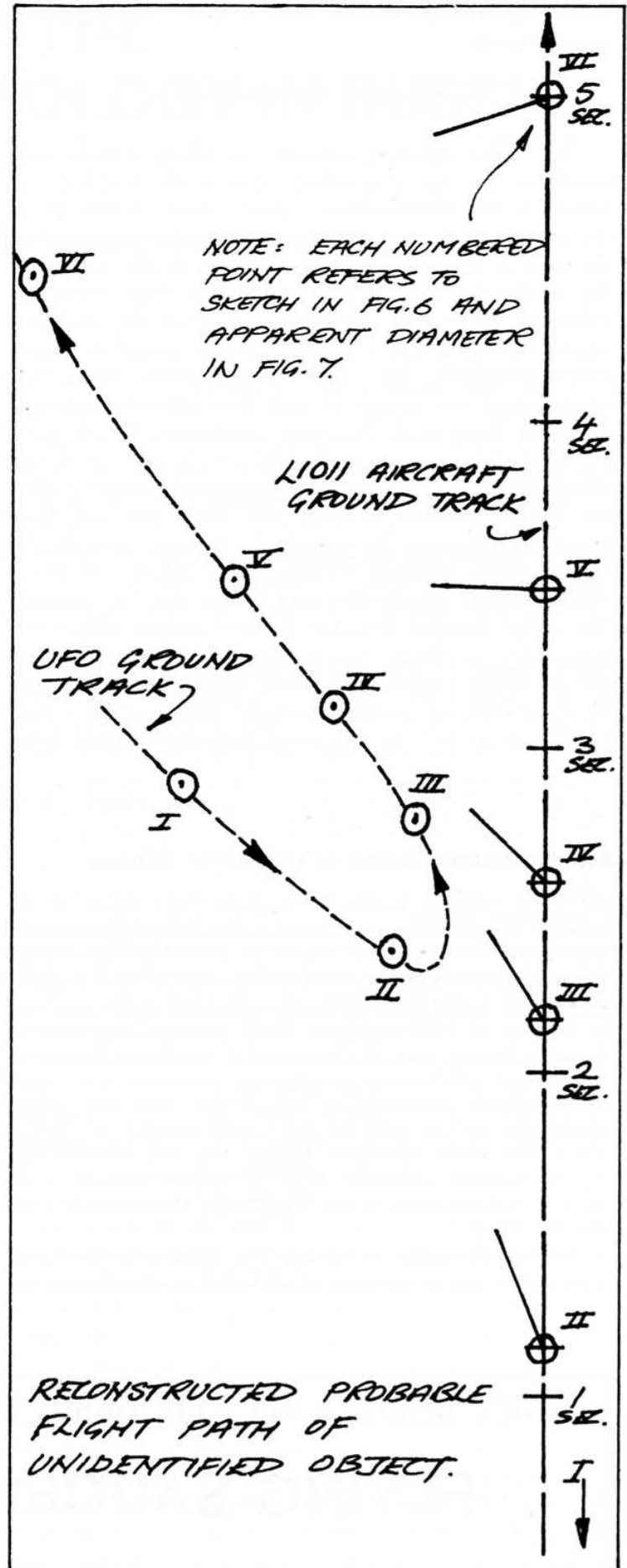


Figure 9.

sults. Apparently, no-one else reported sighting this aerial object.

### Summary Observations

This UFO sighting qualifies as being a truly outstanding case on a number of grounds, not least of which is the observational power and credibility of the primary witness, a 54-year-old senior captain. Yet the case is also outstanding because of the nature of the preliminary conclusions one can draw from the evidence. One such conclusion is that the disc-like object travelled under its own power along an apparently parabolic (or circular) trajectory that first approached the jumbo jet and then departed along a different flight path. Another conclusion, based upon the reported occurrence of a vapour condensation-like effect during its high speed directional change, is that the object seemed to obey the same physical laws which are known to govern terrestrial aircraft. Of course if the strange "cobweb-like" effect was not a condensation effect, this conclusion may be invalid. The large angular size, the bizarre outline shape, the intriguing jet black "portholes" along the edge and the jet black, round spot in the middle of the bottom of the object, all point elsewhere than toward a conventional aircraft. Its apparent trajectory would seem

to rule out a free-floating weather or research balloon. Other possible explanations such as birds, meteorites, or high altitude optical phenomena also are unlikely.

In the final analysis, this sighting is merely that of an unidentified aerial object making a pass on a commercial jet airliner on a clear sunny day in July.

### Notes

4. Chart number 298-80 was used. This chart is manufactured by the American firm "Letraset."
5. The captain indicated that Chicago Center radar had a range of about 150 miles minimum. Air traffic flying at 37,000 feet altitude over Traverse City, Michigan are spotted on their radar. Too much time had elapsed to obtain radar tapes from Chicago Center.
6. This visible vapour effect is actually condensation produced by the interaction of very moist air (typically greater than 75% humidity) and a rapid reduction in local air pressure as occurs over wings. These sheets of vapour actually delineate.
7. The author is grateful to Tom Gates for providing the following solar position values: 41° above horizon; 250.3° magnetic bearing. The magnetic variation was 1° W which was too small to be included in the bearing calculation.
8. The author thanks Jim McCampbell for providing the initial suggestion and subsequent preliminary calculations for this flight path reconstruction

\* \* \* \* \*

### Supplementary Information on Jetliner sighting

Dr. R. F. Haines writes: The April 1979 issue of the bulletin of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation (pp. 4-5) contains a brief article by Dave Kenney entitled "1952 Catalina Sighting." The article concerns a sighting by several hundred Boy Scouts and adult staff members in August of 1952 at about 10.30 am at Camp Fox on Catalina Island, just off the coast of southern California. There are interesting similarities between the aerial phenomenon reported in this article and the object described by the pilot of the L1011 aircraft on July 4, 1981 over Lake Michigan. Briefly, the Boy Scouts saw "... a circular (object) with a double-convex contour ... the sky around the object was much darker than the sky itself."

The article goes on to say the cigar-shaped object was first in a vertical orientation but "... was slowly roll-

ing to a horizontal position ... (it) had a bright metallic appearance, similar to a spun aluminium pan. There were no protuberances or markings visible, except for what I assumed to be windows evenly spaced around its periphery ... the sky around the object appeared to be dark blue or purple — much darker than the sky itself. This "halo of darkness" extended out a relatively short distance and moved along with the object." This object cast a ground shadow that was (subsequently) found to be about 150 feet across. It disappeared in an accelerating climb, remaining in a horizontal orientation.

The apparent similarities between these two sighting reports are striking, indeed. If you should know of other similar reports please write to the author. His mailing address is: 325 Langton Avenue, Los Altos, Calif. USA 94022.

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## **FLYING SAUCER REVIEW**

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# DR. FELIX ZIGEL' AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF UFOLOGY IN RUSSIA: PART III.

Some recent landing cases, including a report of humanoid occupants.

*Gordon Creighton*

ACCORDING to the Soviet astronomer Dr. Felix Zigel', the gigantic UFO that was observed over the territory of the USSR for at least 40 minutes during the night of June 14/15, 1980, was only one of the many "extraterrestrial craft" that have flown over that country, or landed on its soil, during the last ten years. I shall here give a few details of some of these, as reported in Henry Gris's two articles in the Italian magazine *Gente* (July 31 and August 7, 1981).

## The Landing at Petushka

One of the most remarkable of the landing cases investigated by Dr. Zigel' and his team of 19 scientists occurred outside the village of Petushka, near Istra, in the Province of Moscow, at approximately 5.00 p.m. on September 2, 1979. The sole known eyewitness was a land-surveyor named Aleksandr Norin, who, in view of the nature of his profession, and his eye for distances and dimensions, naturally was able to make an excellent sketch of what he had seen, and of the position and lay-out of the site.

For a long time Aleksandr Norin was afraid to tell anyone about it. Then at last he confided in a friend, who suggested that he write to Dr. Felix Zigel' and gave him the latter's address. In due course Norin was interviewed by Zigel', and it was arranged that Zigel' and some of his team of 19 investigators should make an expedition to examine the site.

On August 28, 1980, the Zigel' Group set out from Moscow. Knowing already of course from Norin the approximate area where the landing had taken place, Zigel' was careful to take along with him a qualified geologist named Aleksandr Pluzhnikov. Pluzhnikov, a regular member of the Zigel' Group, is already well known in Russia for his remarkable successes in finding archaeological remains and historical treasures and jewelry, etc., *simply by means of his dowsing rod*.

Pluzhnikov had not been shown Norin's sketch-map of the site. The party were taken at once to the general landing area, and very rapidly Pluzhnikov succeeded in establishing the precise spot, which lay just outside of a wood. Dr. Zigel' recorded the process in his diary: "Pluzhnikov made for the edge of the wood and, with a few small coloured stakes, indicated

the precise spot where the central body of the machine — a circular object about 2½ metres wide — had stood. Then, with more stakes, he went on to mark out a larger circle concentrically around the smaller one. The diameter of this larger circle was 25 metres."

Satisfied that they had found the spot, Zigel' got out Norin's original statement and also listened carefully to the tape made by Norin when he was interviewed.

**Statement of Aleksandr Norin: The "Flying Mushroom."** "On September 2, 1979, I was picking mushrooms in the wood, when, at about five o'clock in the afternoon I saw something that made the blood freeze in my veins, and I had to lean against a tree to prevent myself from collapsing in a faint. It was a shining, metallic "mushroom," standing on a stem about 1½ metres wide at the base.<sup>1</sup> The stem resembled a fluorescent neon shaft, and was emitting a soft pink light. The top part of it was a cupola 1½ metres high and 5 metres wide, bathed in an orange-coloured mist. From the edges luminous vibrations or flashes were shooting out at regular intervals, making it seem as though the mushroom itself were spinning round on its axis."

Norin went on to describe how, as he watched, he saw two "men" emerge from the craft. They were only about 1 metre high, but strongly built, with broad shoulders and well developed chests. They were clad in black space-suits covering the entire body from top to toe, with two small slits at eye-level. They were talking animatedly, and it sounded more like the twittering of birds than human speech.<sup>2</sup> They walked around the "mushroom", as though carefully inspecting it. Then they were "sucked up"<sup>3</sup> into it, and it vanished.

One member of Zigel's team, the botanist Yuri Simakov, made an interesting discovery that fully bore out Norin's story. Simakov found that, around the spot where the "mushroom" had stood, the soil was now totally sterile (almost a whole year after the landing), and even the microorganisms that should have been there in the subsoil at a great depth beneath the spot were also completely missing.<sup>4</sup> Zigel' concluded from the tests made by Simakov and his other scientific specialists that these furnished abso-

lute proof that an extraterrestrial space-craft — only one of the many to have landed in recent years — had stood at that spot just as Aleksandr Norin had affirmed.

### The Landings in the Oktyabrskiy Oilfield

The geologist Aleksei Zolotov of Zigel's team went in person to investigate a report that, in the early part of August 1980, a UFO had landed in the Oktyabrskiy Oilfield (Russia's richest oilfield) in the Bashkir Republic.<sup>5</sup>

It was an excessively hot night, and it was difficult to sleep in the workers' huts in Oktyabrskiy village. At 1.00 a.m. a man got up and went out to take a breath of fresh air, and saw a big object, about 130 metres wide, slowly flying along at a height of only 70 metres or so from the ground. Describing it later, the man said it looked "like a big snowball," white and glowing, enveloped in a sort of huge whitish cloud. Paralysed with terror, the man stood there awhile, watching it, quite unable to move. Then he managed to dash into the hut and give the alarm, shouting "*The Antichrist has come!*"<sup>6</sup> He climbed into his bunk and pulled the blankets over his head, and most of the other men did likewise. Two younger and bolder men went outside however, and both saw the UFO, which had now landed, and on a spot that was in fact at just about the very centre of the whole oilfield. The shape of the UFO as observed by these two men now looked more flattened or squashed, "as though pressed down by some tremendous weight" they said later, when giving their account.

Then two more workers came out and saw the UFO. One of them was Ivan Shcherbakov, foreman of the group, and it was he who subsequently reported the sighting to the Administrative Offices of the oilfield and later to the geologist Aleksei Zolotov when he came there to investigate the case.

Shcherbakov told Zolotov: "I was pretty scared, I can tell you. For a good while I couldn't even speak, couldn't even open my mouth. When finally I did, my voice was just a whisper. I managed to say, faintly, "What's that?" I wouldn't have gone near that thing for a fortune, and my mates all felt as I did, so we went back to sleep . . . we felt a bit safer inside the hut along with the others. When back in the hut I tried to 'phone the Office and report the thing, but the 'phone wouldn't work. It didn't occur to me at the time that this might have been due to the thing. But when I tried to 'phone the Office again next day to report the affair I got through straight away without any trouble."

At 5.00 a.m. next morning Shcherbakov roused his group of workers and they went out and made a cautious investigation and found the UFO had gone. After an hour's search of the spot and the surrounding area, one of the men shouted: "I've found something!"

It was a small deep hole, only 30 cms wide. When they touched the rim of the hole, they found it was hot. They also found three large rectangular imprints, each one metre long, which seemed to be the points of a big equilateral triangle. At these three spots the soil (very sandy) looked slightly blackened, as though by great heat or flame. Indeed some of the sand had clearly been turned to glass.

### The Second UFO at the Oktyabrskiy Oilfield

During the same night, early in August 1980, and at almost the same time, another group of the oilfield workers headed by a foreman named Migulin saw a second UFO. This one was red, its sides seemed to "throb" or "pulsate," and it too appeared to be flattened as though by some great weight bearing down upon it. Migulin thought the red UFO was about 130 metres in diameter (the same size as the white object seen by Shcherbakov and his men) and it remained there a full hour before rising and vanishing towards the north. Unlike Shcherbakov, Migulin did not dare to investigate at the landing site, but he did draw up a statement and get his men to sign it too.

For many weeks both Shcherbakov and Migulin kept quiet about what they had seen, and sent no report to the Oilfield Administration, fearing that, if they did, they would be accused of heavy drinking. But the men in both the groups were unable to keep their sightings secret, and finally the stories of the flattened white globe and the flattened red globe became common knowledge. When the stories reached the ears of the Management, the latter sent for Shcherbakov and Migulin. Contrary to what the two foremen had feared, their accounts were found credible, and in due course both cases were investigated by Aleksei Zolotov.

### A Strange Hole

When Zolotov agreed to investigate the two landing sites and study the events of that night of August 1980, he certainly could have had no idea of the extraordinary surprise that Shcherbakov's "hole" had in store for him.

The topography of the site of the Shcherbakov case was particularly favourable for the making of a thorough scientific investigation, because it lay on the slope of a small hill, and so they were able to excavate from below.

What had seemed to be a simple "hole in the ground" turned out to be merely the "neck" of a huge "bottle-shaped" cavity hollowed out inside the hill.<sup>7</sup> This "bottle" was ten metres high and five metres wide, and its smooth, compact walls looked as though they had just come out of a ceramics kiln, for the sandy soil of which the walls consisted had all been fused by heat and converted into a vitreous substance.

They found that the interior of the “bottle chamber” was slightly radioactive — though not sufficiently so to be dangerous. When they had reached the bottom of the “bottle,” they found that it had a diameter at that point of about three metres. Perhaps the thing that amazed them most was that although there was this great “vitreous bottle” ten metres high and made with the most meticulous care and perfection right inside the hill, *no detritus whatsoever was to be seen anywhere round about on the surface*, so that one could only conclude that all the sandy soil enclosed originally in what was now the “bottle” had been removed or disintegrated by the beings operating the UFO.

Aleksei Zolotov categorically ruled out any possibility either that the “bottle-shaped” cavity could have been a “quirk of nature” or that any sort of “extraterrestrial material” had been used to form it. The conclusion at which he arrived after his exhaustive tests was that the site was where a genuine UFO landing had taken place, and where the occupants of the craft, be they humanoids or robots, had extracted a “bottle-shaped” sample of the soil, no doubt to carry it off for closer study. As regards the three rectangular metre-long furrows, Zolotov concluded that these had been made by the legs of the alien craft.

### The “Mini-UFO” in Lithuania

At 7.30 p.m. on November 11, 1979, as he was driving back to his home in the town of Palanga in the Republic of Lithuania, Antonas Balikis encountered a “frisbee UFO.” As he reported in due course to Dr. Zigel’, he saw the tiny, toy-like UFO in the field of his head-lights, flying so slowly that it could not possibly be anything telecontrolled by a human near by. As he explained, it was almost stationary at times, so that if a device or toy operated by a child or an adult human, it would inevitably have fallen. It was the size of a small dinner-plate and had a black top, while all the rest of it was of a brick-red colour. As it was right there ahead of him in the field of his headlights he had plenty of time in which to study it in detail. “It seemed to be examining my car and my headlights with evident curiosity. I must add that, being so small, it produced no fear in me.”

Balikis drove past the little UFO, and after having gone a short distance he stopped to look back, but it was gone. When he got to his home in Palanga, however, he found the whole town agog with a story about a “miniature flying saucer” that had been seen dancing around in the air and seemingly taking a puckish pleasure in peeping in at the windows of the houses.

Dr. Felix Zigel’ devoted a good deal of study to the Palanga mini-UFO, which is obviously the sort of thing well known to us from the early reports of “*foofighters*” during World War II, and from a number of accounts from Brazil and Europe and elsewhere, of

small discoid or tubular objects that have been seen to enter homes and fly around as though making an inspection.<sup>8</sup> Zigel’ described the Palanga mini-UFO as “a miracle of technology, containing instruments far more sophisticated than those we use in our gigantic *Salyut-6* space-modules.” He said it was presumably collecting information for transmission to a mother-craft.

### Some final considerations

Throughout the articles in *Gente* Dr. Felix Zigel’, the USSR’s best-known UFO investigator, is represented as being firmly convinced that none of the alien beings associated with the UFO Phenomenon wish us any harm; all — so it is suggested — are filled with nothing but benevolence towards Mankind. The popular-science writer Aleksandr Kazantsev, Zigel’s close friend, in whose apartment Zigel’ had his private meeting with Henry Gris and William Dick in the mid-1970s, is also quoted by Gris in the *Gente* articles as being confident that none of the aliens are anything but well-disposed towards us. Kazantsev is quoted as saying:

“Apart from everything else, the civilization that has produced a little marvel like the tiny UFO seen at Palanga is at least a thousand years ahead of us. Such a civilization cannot possibly feel itself threatened by the infantile squawkings of mankind’s technology, which is still in its swaddling-clothes stage, and they could not expect to gain much benefit from anything here even in the event of their wishing to conquer our planet.’

Well, many may wonder, as I do, on what grounds Messrs Zigel’ and Kazantsev base all this sort of talk. From what I have seen of the UFO story so far, I see no grounds whatsoever for such a view (just as I see no grounds yet for the assumption that any of the UFOs are what we describe as “extraterrestrial.” While in the translations which I make from various languages for *Flying Saucer Review* I frequently use the terms “extraterrestrial,” “Space-craft,” “Space-men,” etc., it should not be overlooked that I use these terms because they are there in the original languages. It is now a very long time since I ceased to desire to employ such words myself.)

Maybe however the Soviet ufologists will change their tune before long? For, as we see, they seem to have gone a long way already, in a very short time too. They now admit that they believe, as many of us in the West do, that there are a lot of strange and alien beings around, in strange and alien craft — beings of all types and sizes, and craft of all types and sizes too. Yet, only ten years ago, no Soviet scientist would admit (so far as we know) that there had ever been a landing by a UFO on Earth, or a contact with UFO entities, within historical times. As Zigel’ said to Gris in the mid-1970s, “... it could only have hap-

pened at the dawn of history, when our species was still very primitive." So it looks as though there has been a remarkable evolution in Dr. Zigel's thinking. Moreover, he even talks now about the entities and the craft as being of "other-dimensional" or "multi-dimensional" origin — a possibility that many of us here in the West have been prepared to think about and talk about for the past twenty years, and more.

So it does not look as though Dr. Zigel' now has very far to go before he comes out with it openly and admits (a) that the majority of the so-called UFO entities display anything but a loving attitude towards our species, and, (b) that "other-dimensional" or "multi-dimensional" (whatsoever these terms mean) at any rate do not necessarily mean "extraterrestrial"! We might all be wiser if, at the present stage in our knowledge, we used John Keel's word "ultraterrestrial" or Dr. Hynek's "metaterrestrial."

From what we have heard so far about the doings and behaviour of many of the so-called UFO entities, some of us may feel tempted to murmur: "With friends like these, who needs enemies?" But we do not know the whole picture yet. The human crisis on our planet is rapidly approaching the explosion point that so many seers and prophets have foretold, and it is possible that we may not have to wait much longer before we see "a little less darkly," and before we have some firm clues as to whether there are an "Goodies" around in our outlying area of this Galaxy. *We may take it as certain that They exist somewhere. The 64 billion question is merely: "Are They here too?"*

A close study of some of the religious traditions and writings (of Judaeism and Islam as well as of Christianity) yields clear hints that *They* are not here, and that Earth is an area where *They* lost the control a long time ago. If this be true, it may constitute the most dangerous aspect of the dilemma in which *Homo Sap* (so-called) currently finds himself.

## Notes and References

1. There have been a lot of reports of "mushroom-like" UFOs, standing on "stalks" or "stems," sometimes fairly wide, with "lifts" inside them, or sometimes much narrower, and "pinkish," or "glowing like a neon tube." Examples of the previous type are those of Mario Zuccalà in Italy in April 1962 (FSR, Vol. VIII, No. 4, p. 5.), of Luciano Galli in Italy in 1957 (FSR, Vol. VIII, No. 5, p. 29) and the Pajas Blancas case in Argentina in 1957 (FSR, Vol. XI, No. 1, p. 20). The "mushroom" shape was remarked on in a case of two UFOs seen in Northern Argentina in February 1966 (FSR, Vol. XI, No. 5, p. 29) and there have been quite a number of cases where "stems" were mentioned, including one in Patagonia some years ago which I recall but cannot at present locate in FSR.
2. There have been several cases in which contactees said the speech of aliens resembled the buzzing of insects or the twittering of birds.

3. There have also been several cases in which eyewitnesses said that they saw UFO entities suddenly "sucked up" or swept into their craft.
4. Likewise there have been several reports of UFO landings which left the soil at the spot sterile for many years afterwards. The best-known is probably that of the lavender farmer Monsieur Maurice Masse at Valensole, France, in 1965. (FSR, Vol. XI, No. 5, p. 9; Vol. XI, No. 6, pp. 5 and 7; Vol. XIV, No. 1, p.6.)
5. At about 54° 54N., 56° 57E.
6. Despite 64 years of Marxist-atheist repression, religion is still deeply ingrained in the Russian people, and chiliastic-eschatological concepts have always been prevalent among them. It is interesting therefore to see that an oilfield worker, like the old ladies of Moscow, "reverts to type" when a crisis comes along, and speaks of the reign of the *Antichrist* being at hand. (If I were a betting man, my money would be on the oilfield worker and the old ladies.)
7. It would be too lengthy a job to enumerate all the UFO landing cases in which holes or craters in the ground have been reported. But I recall such features in cases at Wormer, near Amsterdam in September 1960 (FSR, Vol. XI, No. 1, p. 16); in Kent, Berkshire and Hampshire in 1960 (FSR, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 26.) at Charlton, in Wiltshire in July 1963 (FSR, Vol. IX, No. 5, pp. 3 and 8; and Vol. IX, No. 6, p. 30.); at Canyon Ferry Lake, USA in 1964 (FSR, Vol. X, No. 4, p. 24.); at Niton, Isle of Wight, in 1964 (FSR, Vol. X, No. 3, p. 18; Vol. X, No. 6, p. 14); at St. Alexis-de-Montcalm, Montreal, Canada in November 1964 (FSR, Vol. XI, No. 2 p. 26.); in Berkshire in 1965 (FSR, Vol. XI, No. 2, p. 31); at Valensole in France in 1965 (FSR Vol. XI, No. 5, p. 9; Vol. XI, No. 6, pp. 5 and 7; and Vol. XIV, No. 1, p. 6.); and at Marliens, France in May 1967 (FSR Vol. XIII, No. 5, p. 11). There have of course been plenty more "holes" and "craters" since 1967, but the cases of Charlton and Valensole and Marliens are probably among those that are best remembered. After reading this Soviet case about the huge hollowed out "bottle", one might wonder what would have been found had the investigators made deep excavations at some of these other sites I have listed above? What, for example, could have lain beneath the extraordinary network of surface markings left to Marliens?
8. Readers may recall a case in Brazil a few years ago, in which eye-witnesses are reported to have seen a small elongated device (not a disc) flying around *inside a house*. H. T. Wilkins has a similar story about a *foo-fighter* (disc-shaped) which entered through an open waist-hatch on a British bomber flying low over Germany in the closing days of World War II, or, more likely, just after its end. The little disc flew slowly up and down inside, seemingly "taking a good look at everything, including the astonished crew", and then slipped out again through the waist-hatch. There have been one or two other cases where very small discs have been seen, seemingly, as here at Palanga, "peering into the windows of houses." The "foo-fighters," or "kraut-balls," or "mini-discs," have struck many folk as being one of the most intriguing aspects of Ufology. I once worked for seven years in a Government Department in Whitehall where they knew a great deal about "UFOs" and "Flying Saucers," and where officers of the CIA and of U.S. Air Intelligence were frequently to be encountered. An American Air Force Intelligence Officer whom I met there gave me a

very interesting account of his own encounter with a 'foo-fighter' near Tokyo soon after the Japanese surrender. The little device seemed to make a pass at his 'plane, just as he was coming in to land at the airport, and then exploded right before his eyes. He told me that American troops and Japanese police combed the area around but never found the slightest trace of it. On the other hand, we all recall that at Ubatuba, in Brazil, in 1957, one of these small discs was seen to explode in the air and fall in thousands of pieces, partly in the sea and partly on the beach. Our correspondent, the late Dr. Olavo Fontes, wrote about the case for us, and had several scientists make analyses of the fragments. The verdict was the same in all cases — that the metal was 100% magnesium, "of a degree of purity outside the range of present-day technological developments of our science." (FSR, Vol. VI, No. 4, pp.21-22.) It was reported at the time in the *APRO*

*Bulletin* that their next issue would "reveal the attempts made to thwart their efforts to get these facts over to the public."

Not having had a scientific training, I am not competent to discuss the properties of magnesium, but several of my more qualified friends tell me that it is a highly suitable material for use in a device designed to burn up and auto-destruct, if one may use this term.

I hate to be a spoil-sport, and I know what bad form it is held to be to mention Adamski, but I do want to point out that in one of his books — I feel pretty sure it was in his *second* book — Adamski speaks of small expendible discs which are sent out from "mother-craft" and which are programmed to "auto-destruct" if necessary after they have relayed back to the "mother-craft" whatever information they have gathered. Maybe we aren't done yet with Adamski, after all.

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## CHEESEFOOT HEAD MYSTERY RINGS

*Pat Delgado*

IT was on Wednesday, August 19th, 1981, that I first heard about the discovery of mysterious flattened rings in a cornfield at the beauty spot of Cheesefoot Head "punch bowl," which is near Winchester in Hampshire. I was at Alresford Golf Club with some friends when two other golfers, well-known to us, asked if we could explain the phenomenon which they had seen a couple of days earlier. Needless to say there was a variety of suggestions as to how the three rings came to be there, ranging from practical jokers, and school children, and rutting deer, to whirlwinds.

As the site of the rings lies only a few miles from my home, I went to see them for myself on Saturday, August 22nd. The road runs close to, and well above the cornfield, and there were the rings in full view. The cornfield, golden brown, presented a completely smooth top surface broken only by the sharply-defined circles.

I had taken my ten magnification binoculars with me, so I was able to examine the area in some detail. The edges of the rings were sharp, consisting of a circle of erect stalks inside which the immediate stalks constituting the floor were flattened in a clockwise direction. To get a similar effect one would have to drive a stake into the ground, and pivot on the stake a heavy pole, pulling it round to "iron out" a flattened circle.

I was unable to detect, even through the binoculars, any pathway, or track, from the perimeter of the field to any of the three rings, viewed from positions at ninety degree locations. It appeared that the rings could only have been made by something descending on to the field. The centres of the rings lined up exactly.

The size of the largest ring may be judged from the photographs, for it was ascertained, at the edge of the field, that the wheat was just over two feet high. The height of the plants goes into the diameter of the largest ring about twenty-six times, so the diameter was



Rings in a cornfield at Cheesefoot Head.





Mystery holes with clean-cut rims, quadrants of reflected light, and no pathways or foot-trodden tracks to be seen.

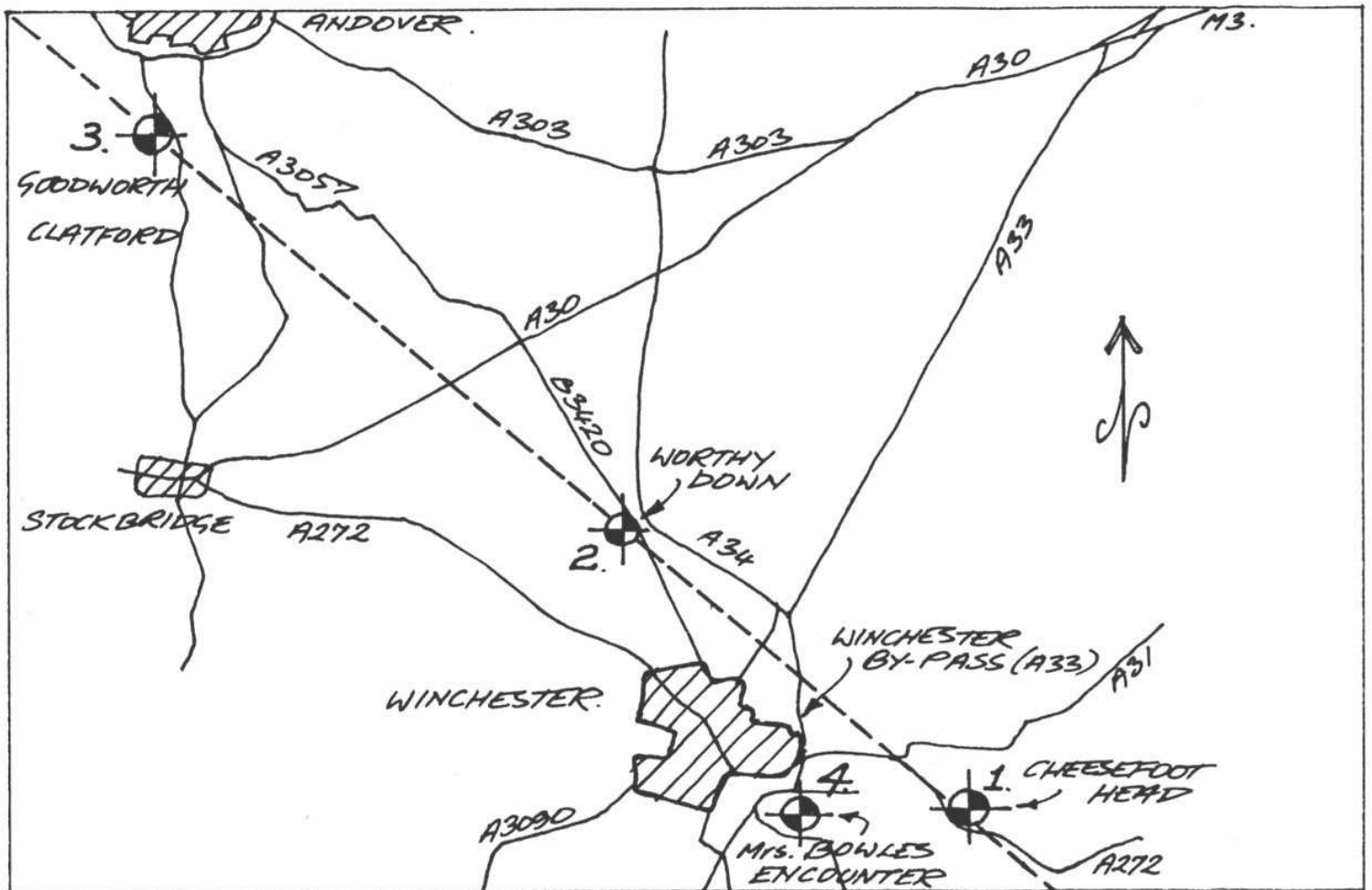
Photographs p. 13 and p. 14, copyright Kit Neilsen.

at least fifty two feet. Measured in the same manner, the diameter of each smaller ring was found to be about seventeen feet.

Some faint tractor wheel tracks were discernible across the field, obviously from fertiliser or pesticide spraying carried out much earlier in the year. The

corn growing in the tracks was erect, but slightly shorter than that on either side. Being an artist as well as an engineer, I drew a crayon sketch of the scene, and this matches with the newspaper photograph, but with much more surrounding detail.

On Monday afternoon, August 24th, I telephoned



BBC TV Southampton, and told the news editor about the rings. He was interested enough to ask me to write a letter to him about the affair. So I rang ITV Southampton, and the news editor there was extremely interested. Indeed, she arranged for a camera crew to go to the site right away, and an item about the rings was featured in their *Day by day* programme on Tuesday August 25th.

Alerted by the ITV programme the local newspapers got in on the story. The *Hampshire Chronicle*, on August 28th, published a photograph of the site, gave details, and mentioned that UFO enthusiasts were visiting the site, and that sceptics said the answer was simple — “youngsters at work, deliberately setting out to create a ‘flying saucer’ scare.” What the paper failed to say was how the child vandals got to the site without leaving any marks of their passage through the cornfield. According to the *Southern Evening Echo*, there was a more sophisticated, albeit noisier, explanation: a Royal Air Force *Chinook* twin-rotor helicopter — a type based at Odiham, Hants. What wasn’t stated was how the *twin* rotor helicopter made *three* holes in the crop, all neat and tidy. One gathers from the *Echo* article that the owner of another damaged crop was Mr. G. Rowsell, and that he had claimed compensation from the Ministry of Defence, who said they were studying his claim. Meanwhile Mr. Rowsell had dismissed, as “. . . a load of tripe,” a claim by the chairman of the British UFO Society that the circles at Cheesefoot Head were caused by UFOs. On September 10th came the RAF disavowal, as reported in the *Winchester Extra*. “Highly unlikely” said the spokesman, adding that the pilots were under strict instructions not to fly or hover

low over cornfields in summer. “Aircraft” he said “would only land if in trouble . . . and they wouldn’t make such a tidy job.”

So what are we left with? The UFO society’s load of tripe?

It is worth noting that the field had been harvested by the evening of August 31st. The floors of the rings were still visible, although partly covered by heaped rows of cut stalks. The floors of all three circles had the corn flattened in the same clockwise direction. There were no interconnecting tracks between circles. The accompanying photographs are prints made from colour transparencies taken by Mr. Kit Neilson of the *Alton Herald*. Note the quadrants of reflected light in the circles, due to all the stalks lying in a clockwise direction (similar to the effect that can be obtained from gramophone record grooves).

On the map I have located the positions of three sites that recently acquired mystery rings in the corn. No. 1 is the position of the Cheesefoot Head rings. No. 2 marks the approximate site of three reported similar rings at Three Maids Hill near Worthy Down to the north west of Winchester. No. 3 is the approximate position of rings recently reported in the local Andover newspaper. It will be observed that the three points lie in a straight line. It should also be noted that position 4, quite close to the line, is the site of Mrs. Bowles’ famous encounter in 1975.

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# THE BRIGHTENING OF THE CHINESE UFO SCENE

With an 'aside' about a darkening on the Soviet horizon

*Charles Bowen*

A YEAR AGO our artist's impression of a Chinese UFO incident was featured on the cover of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, and news was given in our *World Round-up* column of the establishment of China's UFO (Flying Saucer) Research Society. This society, set up to handle the investigation and analysis of all kinds of unidentified flying objects, had received the recognition of the Chinese Society for the Study of the Future — a name which itself conjures up interesting implications. Our information came from an item in the *Beijing Wanbao* (Peking Evening News) of November 28, 1980, which was translated by Gordon Creighton. We learned, furthermore, that at that time the China UFO Research Society had "... over 300 members distributed throughout 24 provinces."

In the recent past neither Mr. Creighton nor I made any secret of the fact that there seemed to be, in 1980-81, a considerable recession in UFO reports. We were fairly confident, however, that waves, or flaps, were going on in parts of the world where there were communications difficulties. Our respective hunches probably stemmed from the fact that over the years there had always been a certain official interest in our subject; the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Peking, and the Soviet Academy of Sciences too, have always been punctilious in renewing their subscriptions to FSR. In addition the Chinese have maintained an exchange as well: FSR for a technical — non-UFO — publication. Now that there seems to be some lifting of restrictions on communications with modern China, we begin to learn that a considerable volume of UFO reports have been made in that country over the past two years. Perhaps we were correct in our assumptions that "something was going on, unknown to us, in some relatively remote part of the world." (Again, in the past, the occasional visitor to China who has come our way — and I am thinking in particular of an Australian businessman friend, who wishes to remain unnamed — have always insisted that "... the place is 'running alive' with UFOs.")

## FSR banned

Our recent articles from Russian sources, directly and indirectly, have revealed there have been a good deal of UFO — and humanoid — cases in that country as well. At the same time, however, there has been

an unhappy development. Even before our articles were published, the "clamps had gone on". A small number of Soviet ufologists have long received the Review, without charge, through the post. We have learned now that our journal is proscribed, and that during the last two years all copies, other than those addressed to the Academy libraries, have been confiscated by the Soviet authorities. The Academy copies may only be read by specially approved persons, and we'd bet our bottom dollar that those persons do not include ufologists.

## Attempts to communicate with the Chinese UFO Society

Encouraged by the unprecedented trickle of UFO news items out of China, via Tokyo, in 1980, Gordon Creighton and I visited the Chinese Embassy in London. Our purpose was, first, to obtain a print of the UFO photograph allegedly taken near the Great Wall on August 23, 1980, and secondly, to establish contact with the UFO Society which, we understood, was centred at Wuhan University. Our hopes were to receive a few knocks, for our experience of the apparent "easing of restrictions" is that they still seem to be buried in a frustrating mire of suspicions. Two officials in turn stared at us in blank amazement, and neither seemed willing to take responsibility for doing anything about our request. In the end one of them suggested we try the *Xinhua* news agency, which has an office in the city. When we arrived at the agency office, the door was bolted and barred. After a while, a formidable gentleman opened the door, and we put our request to him about the photograph, whereat he looked somewhat confused. In the end he bellowed something up the hallway, and a charming lady arrived at the door, and in perfect English invited us into the news room. We repeated our request about the photograph, and spoke about the Society.

Now Gordon Creighton happens to be fluent in Mandarin Chinese, and after the lady had spoken to a colleague — the only other person in the room — and interpreted what we had said in (so Gordon told me) Shanghai Chinese, he interjected in Mandarin. The amazed Chinese faces were a wonder to behold, but they quickly recovered their composure, and switched to Mandarin, and a good time was had by all

— bar me, until the good lady realised my predicament, and interpreted salient points for my benefit. The upshot of it all was that we got precisely nowhere; the best the agency could do for us was to suggest we tried to establish contact with the China UFO Society through the office which arranges the exchanges with FSR.

So we tried that, and tried again, but unfortunately, although we received a polite acknowledgement of our request — which, we were told, had been forwarded to the appropriate place — "... the wheels grind exceeding slow."

In the absence of reports that have come directly to us, here is a selection of Chinese reports sent to us by our correspondent **Yusuke Matsumura** in Tokyo. They are taken from the Tokyo newspaper *Asahi Evening News* where they appeared on June 19, 1981, under the signature **Bo Lin** of China Features (the cross headings are mine — C.B.)

\* \* \* \* \*

"According to China's traditional calendar, 1980 was the Year of the Monkey. But, for the newly-established China UFO Research Organization (CURO) it was the Year of the Unidentified Flying Object.

"UFO sightings reached a new peak in China in 1980.' CURO chairman Cha Leping said recently in the central China city of Wuhan, as he looked over the 77 reports of UFOs from January through November.

"We don't reject the idea that they come from outer space,' he said. 'We just have to study these things with an open and scientific mind.'

"CURO was officially formed in May 1980 from an informal liaison centre for UFO fans at Wuhan University, which has recorded 208 sightings over the last few years.

"CURO is now a member of the Chinese Society for the Study of the Future, set up to research into unexplained phenomena. It has branches and 400 members throughout China. Cha Leping, 25, the chairman, is a student at the space-physics faculty at Wuhan University."

### Heat radiating UFO at Dagang oilfield

"Some of the sightings reported to CURO in 1980 make incredible reading. Like the report of a group of machinery workers who were on a night prawn-fishing expedition at Dagang, the north China coastal oilfield.

"According to one of the machinists, 31-year-old Hong Changgui, the UFO appeared about 3 a.m. on October 5, 1980. It was cone-shaped, he said, flying at about 3,000 feet and apparently not very large. But, gazing up at the strange object, he felt an intense heat on his face.

"It was like standing under a stove,' he recalled. 'It gave off a very bright light, something like a welding arc. It was bright red at the centre and blue-green at the edges, except for the trailing edge which showed a white light.

"The whole incident lasted about ten seconds as it flew overhead with a whistling sound.'

"Another member of the group, 46-year-old Jin Guomin, said: 'Frankly, I was scared. We didn't know what it was and it made such a terrible noise. But my young son started calling to it "UFO! UFO!" as it went overhead.'

### Green disc at Tianjin

"A month later, on November 5, Li Renpei and Li Laijun, office workers at a textile mill in Jinghai county, near the big city port of Tianjin, were also up and about in the early hours of the morning. The spotted a dish-like object, emitting a green light and flying on an irregular course.

"Within a few seconds, it disappeared in the eastern sky, but it reappeared about seven minutes later and flew west. It held this course for another few seconds and then veered east again until it disappeared once more."

### Wuhan "dish" with bright lights

"Less than a week later, on November 11, three students at Wuhan University sighted a UFO over the eastern outskirts of Wuhan at about 10 o'clock in the evening.

"According to the report the students gave to CURO, the UFO was carrying two yellow lights and two white lights. The white lights were dazzling at times. They said: 'The shape was like a dish, with the middle part protruding a little. We estimated it was about 3,000 feet above the ground and we had it in view for about 15 minutes. It flew slowly in a north-eastern direction and then made a turn right above us to take a south-west course.'

### Twin objects at Zhangpu cause panic, and deaths

"Not all of China's UFO sightings in recent years have been uneventful. According to the newly-collated records of CURO, at least one visitation caused death and injury.

"It happened on the evening of July 7, 1977, when more than 3,000 people were watching an open-air showing of the Romanian film *Alarm in the Danube Delta* at a playground in Zhangpu county, Fujian province, east China.

"About 8.30, a section of the audience spotted two mysterious objects hurtling towards them out of the night sky, flying so low they nearly touched the ground. The objects — there are conflicting reports about their shape — were giving off a strong orange light and flying only a few feet apart. They made no noise.

"Panic spread like wildfire, and in the scramble two children were trampled to death and 300 people were hurt. Within a few seconds, the UFOs had streaked overhead and disappeared.

"Later, the local Public Security Bureau ran the film under the same atmospheric conditions but nothing abnormal occurred."

### Air Force pilots observe rectangular UFO at Gansu: speculatively linked with Valentich case

"The CURO file seems to show a strong link between sightings in China and sightings in other parts of the world.

"On October 23, 1978, a group of Chinese air force pilots, watching a film out of doors in Gansu province, northwest China, spotted a massive luminous object in the sky. They watched it for two or three minutes as it flew overhead at an altitude of about 21,000 feet. The pilots said it was rectangular and carrying very bright lights.

"The incident has been reported in the *Weekly World News*, Florida, but a new development is the apparent link between this UFO and the one reported to have knocked down an Australian plane only two days earlier, in October 21, 1978.

"In the Australian incident, a small single-engined aircraft was flying over the Bass Strait, southern Australia, when the pilot radioed to the ground station that a rectangular object, giving off a green light, was flying above him. The object was very large, he said, and carrying four lights.

"Six minutes after his first radio report, communication between the pilot and the ground were cut off. Later searches by the Australian Navy and Air Force failed to find the plane or the pilot.

"Inhabitants of King Island, near the strait, also said they saw the object which they said was very large and flying very fast. They also reported the green light.

"Cha Leping, the CURO chairman, said: "There seems to be some link between the UFO the Australian pilot saw and the one that appeared over Gansu province two days later. The descriptions tally — very large, rectangular and emitting a strong light.'"

#### **Speedy spraying object in Guangxi: another speculative link**

"In another sighting that strongly suggests a link with phenomena in other parts of the world, Fan Da, a farm official in Guangxi, south China, saw a silvery object on November 11, 1979. It was flying at high speed and apparently spraying some liquid or dust.

"A day earlier, a UFO matching the description of the

one over Guangxi was reported to have forced a Spanish jetliner to make an emergency landing.

#### **Widely reported UFO identified as meteorite**

"In a recent article, Cha Leping has placed descriptions of the UFOs in three categories.

"He said 80 per cent of them appeared to be like a dish, a ball, a ring or egg-shaped, shining with a silvery light during the day and glowing orange or red at night. Several cases of UFOs trailing smoke have been reported.

"In the second category Cha Leping lists large rectangular objects — rarely seen — and in the third, UFOs that appear as spiral nebula, with a bright core and many small points of light around it.

"One UFO, which brought in 22 reports from Shanghai and the Chinese provinces of Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui, Jiangxi and Fujian, has been identified with some confidence as a big meteorite.

"It entered the atmosphere over east China at about 10.45 p.m. on August 26, 1980, as a ball of fire and at an altitude of about 60 kilometres.

"It broke up into several fiery pieces, followed by a burning cloud of smaller debris. Two observations tracked its 1,000-kilometer descent over the Taiwan Straits and estimate it must have weighed at least 1,000 tons on entry."

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# **"HAMBURGER" WITH LIGHTS OVER POOLE**

*Leslie Harris*

**This case was investigated by Ron Lucas and the author, formerly editor of *Scan* magazine.**

**O**BTAINING corroborative evidence of a single-witness sighting is usually an impossible task and for that reason multi-witness sightings are eagerly sought by investigators anxious to prove the objective reality of UFOs. This report deals with a sighting at Poole in Dorset involving six witnesses, all nine year old boys, tender in years but mature enough to recognise an inexplicable phenomenon and to describe their experience with sufficient lucidity to indicate that a UFO of some kind was indeed present.

The incident occurred on November 13, 1980. The witnesses were Richard Gillson, Emmerson Road; Lee Perkins, Emmerson Road; Anthony Rayment, Denmark Road; Matthew Anderson, St. Mary's Rd; Vincent Jones, Green Road; Abdul Shahid, Green Road. All the boys were nine years old on the date of the sighting, all attend the same school, and all live fairly close to each other in Poole. One boy, Abdul Shahid, was not interviewed. Attempts were made to see him, but difficulties were experienced owing to the reserved and suspicious attitude of his guardians. All

the boys we did see gave every impression of frank truthfulness, and it became clear that they did indeed witness a UFO phenomenon.

#### **The location**

The sighting occurred on a stretch of land bordering Poole Harbour known as Baiter Point. The land has been turned into a pleasure area with goal-posts provided in season for the use of the public.

#### **The sighting**

This is a general account using information supplied by all the witnesses interviewed.

The six boys were playing football after school (about 4.00pm) when Anthony Rayment, glancing up, saw the UFO. He shouted to draw the attention of the others to the object which was about twice the size of a helicopter and stationary at about 300ft (45°). It had the appearance of a hamburger (oval) with bumps,

and was bisected by a black line. The body of the object was of indeterminate colour (to be explained later) and red, yellow and blue lights were in evidence, seemingly mounted on some sort of "propeller" protruding from the object.

The underside of the object carried a red "poppy-shaped" configuration, and a yellow light beamed from a central protruding light source.

The object made either no sound or a low humming (to be explained later). After about three minutes the object began to rise, then flew slowly away on a diagonal course.

### Individual observations

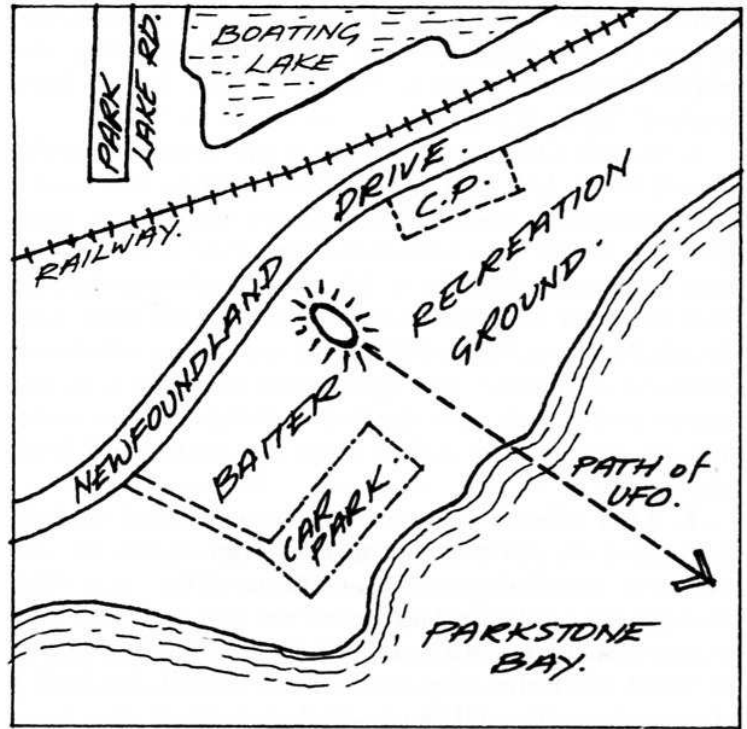
Although the foregoing represents a composite picture of the incident, using all five accounts, the individual stories do contain conflicting statements and different impressions. Let us look at each feature of the sighting from the individual viewpoints of the five boys.

**1. Shape:** All agreed that the object was "hamburger-shaped" or oval. All agreed that the object had "bumps" which they found very difficult to describe. Anthony Rayment's version was that the object had "bumps on top" and a "jagged bottom," while Lee Perkins described "rows of bumps on top and bottom."

**2. Black Line:** Matthew Anderson, Richard Gillson and Lee Perkins all mentioned a black line bisecting the object across the centre. However Anthony Rayment described a "black surround to base."

**3. Colour of Object:** Here there is a major contradiction in the accounts. Lee Perkins version is "whitey-grey," Richard Gillson — "silver-grey," Matthew Anderson — "red and green squares," Anthony Rayment — "red and green checks," Vincent Jones — "blue, yellow and red."

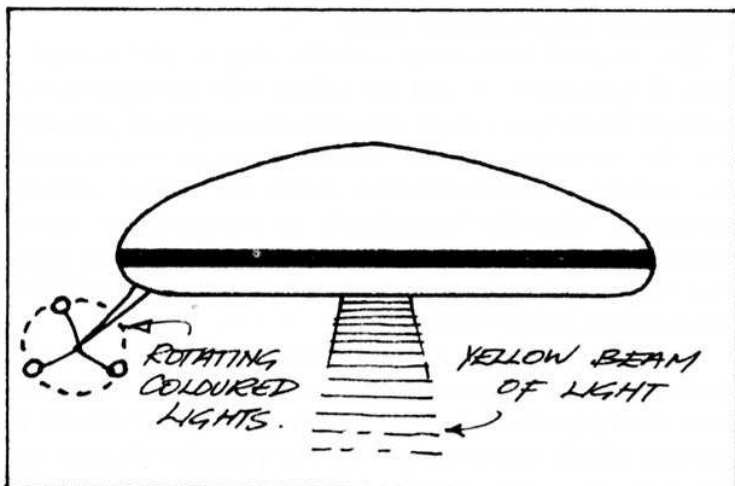
**4. Propeller:** Again there was a marked difference of opinion in describing this feature. Vincent Jones did not notice it at all. Richard Gillson described it as protruding diagonally downwards from the left side of



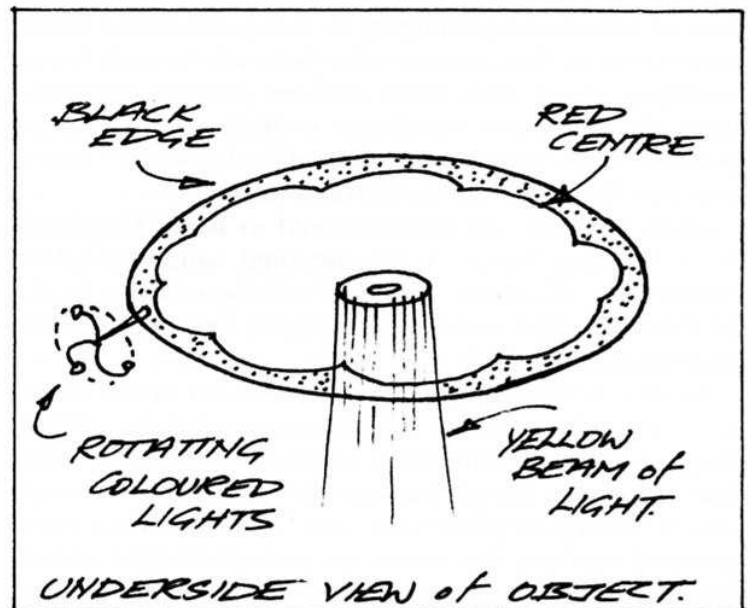
The location of the sighting near Poole Harbour.

the object, and carrying red, yellow and blue lights which were rotating at 2 rps. Lee Perkins was sure it protruded horizontally from the *right* side of the object, but agreed that it carried red, yellow and blue lights, although these changed colour and were stationary. Matthew Anderson's propeller also stuck out horizontally from the right side of the object, but he also described a second protrusion pointing downwards at right-angles to the first with a constant white light on the end.

**5. Underside:** Anthony Rayment, who first saw the object and was apparently the closest to it, had a clear view of the underside. He described a red "poppy" shape surrounded by a black border, and a yellow light which shone from a protruding source in the



The object, based on the boys' descriptions.



centre of the base. Richard Gillson also noticed the poppy shape, which, he said, grew dimmer before the object finally departed. None of the other boys noticed the underside.

**6. Sound:** Only one boy heard any sound from the object. He is Lee Perkins and he claims he detected a "low, humming sound." The others were quite sure that the object was soundless. However, a contradiction became evident here. Matthew Anderson told us that Anthony Rayment had said at the time that he could hear a "sound like he'd never heard before." Anthony, of course, was apparently the closest to the object and therefore in the best position to notice any sounds. But he told us that there was NO sound from the object.

**7. After-effects:** None of the boys seemed unduly perturbed by their sighting. Only one spoke of unpleasant psychological after-effects. This was Lee Perkins who said he had been "excited, shocked and frightened" by what he saw. When he thought about it at home later that day, he had felt scared. He had a dream about the UFO in which it landed, two boys were taken on board and guns were fired. He woke up with a scream. After that, he began waking up about every other night, having screamed in the dream and woken himself up. By the time we saw him, Lee's night

problems had ceased, although he admitted the memory of the sighting still scared him.

### Conclusions

Unfortunately, as far as we know, no adult witnessed this UFO. Anthony Rayment's mother came along to meet him just at the conclusion of the sighting to be greeted by six very excited boys, all talking at once about their experience. By the time she realised what had happened, the object had disappeared, although she did admit that there was no-one else about and that it was "spooky." So we are left with the testimony of five of the six boys present, all nine years of age, and with stories which tally in many respects but contradict in others.

Did they see a helicopter? Not if their descriptions are accurate for the shape and configuration of the UFO bear no relation to a helicopter, particularly in the matter of the lack of sound.

Did they invent the whole story? If they did they were far more cunning than one could reasonably expect of nine-year-olds. Why make conflicting statements regarding certain features of the object? We

*(Concluded on page 24)*

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## FSR BOOKSHELF — 13

New UFO books reviewed by . . .

*Janet & Colin Bord*

WITH a noticeable lack of close encounter cases nowadays, the attention of the UFO world seems to have turned towards abduction reports. The number of such reports is staggering — 500 in the United States alone, according to Budd Hopkins — and this seems to indicate a new trend in the behaviour of whoever or whatever is the cause of the UFO phenomenon. But anyone who believes he will learn anything about this cause and its possible motives from the abductees' evidence is likely to be disappointed: it is true to say that all "abduction" cases generate far more questions than answers.

Some of these are demonstrated in **Budd Hopkins' book *Missing Time: A Documented Study of UFO Abductions*** (Richard Marek Publishers, New York, \$12.95, 258 pages, with photographs, drawings, notes, bibliography, index).

In this book Hopkins concentrates on seven cases from the nineteen he has investigated since 1976, most of them cases that will be new to the reader. The first surprising element is that the abductions are not recent: most took place years ago. That they were ever dredged up from the witnesses' memories came about because of puzzling incidents or time losses recalled

by the witnesses, these being probed through hypnotic regression which revealed amazing details consciously forgotten by the witnesses. So if abductions really do take place as recalled by those involved, then this is definitely not a new development in UFO entity behaviour, but something that they have so far managed to conceal extraordinarily well. That interpretation demands that the content of the reports be taken at face value.

*But* — and here is one of the major, so far unresolved, questions — can we safely take abduction reports at their face value? Hypnotists and those attending the sessions usually remark on how convincing the witness was, in reliving terror and other strong emotions. Also the transcripts of the sessions seem convincing when read. And why, we ask, should anyone make up a story like that, one which is paralleled by so many other "stories"?

The phenomenon of UFO abduction revealed by hypnotic regression is itself paralleled by the phenomenon of past lives revealed by hypnotic regression, a pursuit which has become very popular in Britain in recent years. But careful detective work has now largely discredited this phenomenon as producing

evidence for reincarnation: the “past lives,” when checked, rarely agree with documented history; their content has sometimes been traced back to past reading by the witness, long since “forgotten” (the unconscious mind has a staggering ability to recall in perfect detail pages of books that were barely glanced at, perhaps years earlier); the witness’s desire to please the hypnotist is revealed; and the witness shows remarkable acting ability under hypnosis.

These and many other convincing refutations of reincarnation as revealed through hypnotic regression are fully described in a recent book, **Mind Out of Time?: Reincarnation Claims Investigated**, by Ian Wilson (Victor Gollancz Ltd, 1981). This should be read by anyone concerned with UFO abduction cases, because the parallels are so clear. The witness knows that the hypnotist and UFO researcher are looking for, probably even expecting, an abduction event to emerge, therefore the obliging witness provides one (not by conscious fabrication, of course). The details of the abduction are not too difficult to provide, since almost everyone has heard at least something of the Betty and Barney Hill case which was so widely publicised: confabulation and perhaps even telepathy with the investigator provide the rest.

This last possibility could help explain similarities from case to case, as reported by Budd Hopkins in his investigations: the witness need not have read about little-known abduction cases, but since the investigator is closely involved with such cases and presumably has absorbed much information, the details are likely to be available for use by the abductee’s unconscious via telepathy. On all this evidence, the most usual “abduction” scenario seems to be that a susceptible witness is scared by lights seen while driving at night, possibly aeroplane lights which can often seem to be other than what they really are. His fright remains deep within him, later to trigger off a fantasy “abduction” based on material absorbed from the media.

The anti-abduction evidence is strong, and it is tempting therefore to declare that none of the so-called abductions have any basis in reality.

However, there are puzzling features which cannot so easily be explained away, the prime example from Budd Hopkins’ book being the mysterious cuts suffered by four people the investigator knows. All were born in 1943 and all sustained their wounds probably in the summer of 1950, under strange circumstances. They retain scars as evidence, and the events are remembered by relatives. It is just such enigmas as these which remind us that it is unscientific to totally reject any concept; however much one’s intelligence rebels against it. So although we are suspicious of so-called abduction cases and are aware of many ways in which apparently convincing aspects of them can be explained, we do not reject out of hand the possibility that people have been taken away by strange beings — who may or may not be connected with the pheno-

menon we term “UFOs.” We simply ask that everyone involved in abduction research familiarises him- or herself with all the “pro” and “anti” data, so that their future investigations may be informed rather than un-informed.

Budd Hopkins’ stated purpose (p.87) echoes this plea: “We have the data but lack the explanations, and it is partly my purpose in writing this book to stimulate others — psychologists, neurologists, physicists, statisticians — in fact, intellectuals and scientists of whatever disciplines, to examine the data and to begin the task of deciphering meaning.” His book contains plenty of data for the abduction detective, since it contains lengthy transcripts of hypnotic regression sessions. Although the book is interesting and thought-provoking, it may sometimes prove tedious to the general reader as he finds himself plodding through page after page of transcripts. And we wish that Hopkins had not already made up his mind concerning one very important, *and still undetermined*, facet of the UFO mystery — where they come from. “. . . I believe it is true; extraterrestrials have been observing us in our innocence for many years, and we have *no idea* of their intentions.” If Hopkins has chosen to believe that UFOs are extra-terrestrial, a belief for which there is *no* hard evidence, then he is not a truly open-minded investigator and the data he presents is of necessity tainted by his bias.

Readers should also ensure that their minds are totally open when they turn their attention to another new book from the nimble pen of Jenny Randles (with co-author Paul Whetnall): **Alien Contact: Window on Another World** (Neville Spearman Ltd, £5.25, 208 pages, with a few drawings and photographs, and index). The subject is the fascinating and incredible case of the Sunderland family who live in North Wales. In the first half of the book the phenomena experienced by the family, most especially by the younger children, are described in detail — UFO and entity sightings, psychic happenings, out-of-the-body experiences, meetings with the aliens in their own realms. Then the authors explain their investigation tactics, and reach their conclusions. We do not intend to go into too much detail and reveal all, thus spoiling the book for potential readers. But we can say that the authors appear to have made every effort to remain unbiased: they have not tried to fit the evidence to their preconceptions. An investigator who was also a believer in the ETH would have taken the evidence at its face value and concluded that the children were definitely in contact with aliens from planet X; a sceptic would have concluded that either the children were lying or, possibly, experiencing involuntary fantasies. But if we accept the authors’ assessment of the family’s honesty and lack of motivation in concocting a hoax, while at the same time being aware of other phenomena with similar features (e.g. poltergeists) and



theoretical work on relevant subjects (e.g. energy manipulation), it is clear that this case is not only complex, but that the implications inherent in its solution are vitally relevant to the whole puzzling field of close encounters.

This case and its investigation also point up the fact that investigators of such cases *must* be widely read, and *must* be able to call upon expert knowledge in a variety of apparently unrelated fields. Though we do query the statement that there is a Celtic goddess by the name of Ana (p.146). The nearest name we could locate is Anu, which does not really come very close to Gaynor's entity friend "Arna," and we feel this is a false trail. Also it is a pity that neither editor nor copy-editor nor proof-reader picked up the numerous spelling errors (like the non-existent "cooperative" — presumably "corroborative" was meant — "jepordise" for "jeopardise," "Dr. Cal Jung" for "Dr Carl Jung,"

"theorem" for "theorem," and so on). Occasional infelicities of language notwithstanding, we have no hesitation in recommending this book as vital reading for all ufologists.

In FSR Vol. 27 No. 1 we mentioned the *Zetetic Scholar's* dialogue on UFO theories. Issue 8 of *ZS* continues the dialogue with 29 pages of J. Richard Greenwell's "Replies to his Commentators."

The same issue also contains Ron Westrum's report on "UFO Sightings Among Engineers and Scientists," as well as an open letter to Carl Sagan from Robert K. G. Temple on the Sirius Mystery, and interesting material on Peter Hurkos and psychic surgery, with much else besides. (*ZS* costs \$12 p.a. in U.S.A. and Canada, \$18 elsewhere, and is obtained from 'Zetetic Scholar,' Department of Sociology, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197, U.S.A.)

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# HUMANOIDS IN THE FOREST OF MARSOIS

**Another French close encounter of 1956 comes to light**

*Lionel Danizel et al.*

**We are indebted to the Editorial Committee of *Lumières dans la Nuit* for this interesting report — prepared by L. Danizel, Roger Thomé and Christine Zwygart — taken from their journal, issue No. 205 (May 1981) in which it first appeared. Translation from French by Gordon Creighton.**

**T**HIS close sighting of two small humanoids took place in broad daylight, at 7.00 a.m. during the summer (June, July, or August) of 1956. The place was a broad path in the Forest of Marsois, not far from the hamlet of Mauvaissant, in the district of Nogent-en-Bassigny, in the Département of Haute-Marne, East Central France. The spot is quite close to a well-known local prehistoric monument, the dolmen called *La Pierre Alot*.

The witness was a local woman, Mme. L—, of Nogent, who was aged 52 at the time. This lady's identity is known to the LDLN investigative team, but she insists that it shall not be divulged.

## The Encounter

Mme. L—, was in the habit of making long early-morning excursions on foot through the woods and fields to gather mushrooms, and also fodder for her rabbits. The weather was fine, the sky clear, and the temperature mild.

Arriving at the Marsois Forest, she set out along one of the broad straight tracks. When she had

reached the vicinity of the dolmen, which stands beside the forest track, she noticed that two small individuals were coming towards her down the track. They seemed to be walking along quietly, in Indian file, and when she first caught sight of them she thought they were at a distance of perhaps 80 or 100 metres from her. Her first thought was that they were children, so she carried on towards them with no feeling of apprehension.

But, when she had gone a few metres or so past the dolmen, she halted. And the two entities at once halted too, and began to eye her fixedly. By this time, they were no more than 10-15 metres from her, so that she was able to take pretty clear note of a good many details about them.

The two small beings were about 1 metre 20 cms in height, with stocky, thick-set bodies. Their legs were short, thin, and bandy. They were dressed in a sort of close-fitting white one-piece suit, on which she could detect no seams or buttons, at any rate from where she was. Their hands were covered by black mittens, with no fingers showing. On their feet they had half-boots, likewise black, and round their waists they had broad

belts of this same colour. On their heads they had round black helmets, "bulged-out" towards the top, and their faces seemed to be covered by a transparent vizor, the witness being unable to make out any facial details at all, apart from a few glints or reflections on the vizor itself.

After standing there for a few moments in surprise, Mme. L— spoke to them. "Who are you?" she received no answer, the two beings simply standing there and eyeing her in silence and moving their heads up and down. They showed no signs of hostility or perturbation but rather, so it would seem, curiosity combined with a certain degree of indifference.

Then they made a light movement with their arms, did a half-turn in normal sort of fashion, and calmly plunged into the shrubbery bordering the track, making their way through it in a completely ordinary manner, their gait that of normal men. The witness heard the sound of their footsteps and heard the breaking of branches.

When they had disappeared, Mme. L— went back to gathering her mushrooms. She had felt no physical effect of any kind during the encounter, apart from a certain *malaise*, due to a mixture partly of surprise and partly of anxiety. Her heart was beating rather fast, and she felt tense, but at no point had she been overcome by panic. She had been aware throughout of being in full possession of all her faculties.

Could they have been children playing a practical joke? It is possible of course. But what would children have been doing in a wood, at seven o'clock in the morning, even though the hamlet of Mauvaissant was not far away? (The other villages were distant several kilometres.) Moreover, the two beings did not react at all in the way that one would have expected from children, who generally give themselves away in such circumstances, being unable to keep a straight face (running away, laughing, shouting, etc.).

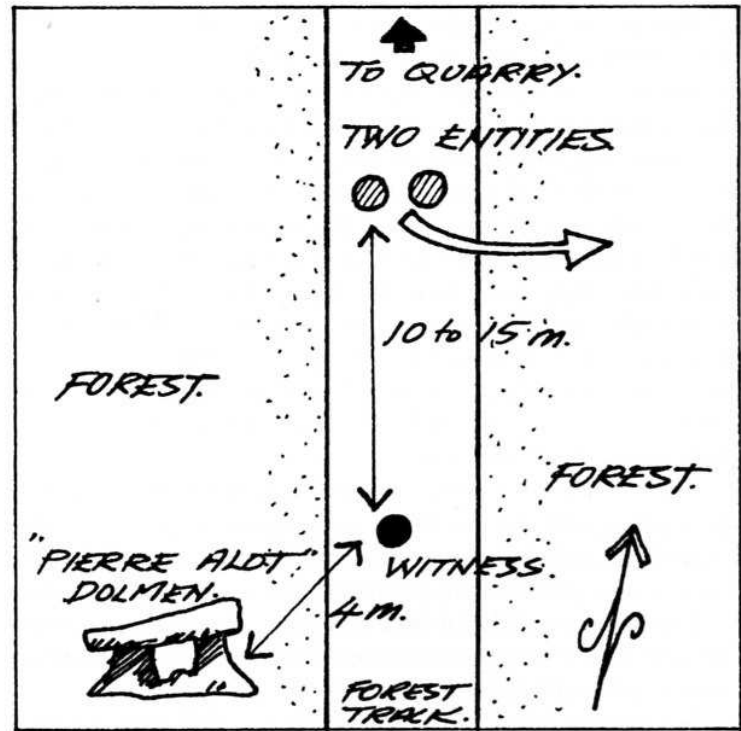
#### Further Notes on the Case

Mme. L—'s reaction to these two beings, who at no moment were in any way menacing (they appeared to be carrying no weapons or objects of any sort) is explained by the fact that she now realized at once — on account of their shape and their dress and their silence — that these were not normal, usual sort of folk.

We would mention, by the way, that the *Pierre Alot* dolmen lies on a ley line which runs towards Vitry-le-Nogent.

Be it noted likewise that this case falls in the category of sightings of humanoids without any visible object or craft in the vicinity. But maybe there was a landed craft standing in the stone quarry to which one comes if one carries on for a further 400 metres or so along the forest track.

We would add finally that Mme. L—, a very sick



woman at the time of our investigation of the case, is a trustworthy and well-balanced person whose sincerity we have not found it possible to doubt.

#### Additional comments on the case after further investigation

These small beings seen on a forest track in the summer of 1956 at Marsois (Haute-Marne) correspond very well with the general characteristics of entities seen in the vicinity of landed UFOs, particularly in respect of their height and their humanoid aspect. (The height of the witness herself is 1 metre 62 cms.)

Their gait and manner of walking are normal. They make no stiff movements, but bend their knees and joints normally. Consequently Mme. L— never thought for a single moment that they might be robots, since she had had the idea, right at the start of the sighting, that these were children coming towards her.

As regards their faces, the witness was unable to see anything. The helmets which enveloped the heads of the beings bore some sort of semi-transparent opaque vizor that reflected the morning rays of the Sun shining through the trees and coming from the witnesses' right, the Sun being in the East at this early hour of the day. In their general appearance, according to the statements made by the witness, these helmets somewhat resemble the helmets worn by our present-day motorcycle police. While, on the other hand, one might also compare the helmets of the entities with those worn by the humanoids seen on two occasions by Monsieur Marius Dewilde at Quarouble in the North of France (September 10, 1954, and October 10, 1954).

Did any contact take place between the witness and the entities? In the present case it is very difficult to pronounce an opinion. Let us not forget that the incident occurred in broad daylight, and that, when Mme. L— was at a maximum distance of no more than 10 to 15 metres from the small humanoid creatures, she had the distinct impression that the latter were gazing at her fixedly and intensively for a certain duration of time. We may note that the two entities had halted, seemingly purposefully, and that they moved their heads up and down when Mme. L— asked who they were, but that they nevertheless remained silent. Can we perhaps interpret this as some sort of response on their part? It is possible.

After making slight movements with their arms, they plunged into the thick undergrowth, pushing the branches and bushes aside in normal fashion with their arms just as a normal person would have done.

The witness did not feel any bad effects seeing that, despite this strange encounter, she went on her way in search of mushrooms and food for her rabbits.

No hostile action from the entities (and none on the part of the witness either) suggests an attitude of curiosity on the part of the entities, combined with a relative degree of indifference. Nevertheless, we would be inclined to say that there was gestural contact between these entities and Mme. L—, and to classify the case as a close encounter of the third kind. (Professor J. A. Hynek's CE III.)

No object (UFO) was seen at the time, either stationary in the air, or on the ground, or subse-

quently. So maybe there was a UFO standing in the open quarry? We have no way of knowing. Be it noted that the forest itself is much too dense to permit a UFO to attempt a landing there. The open quarry (today used by the local motor-cycle fans as a trial ground) remains the only possibility, though this is of course merely a hypothesis.

At the date when the encounter took place (1956) the undergrowth flanking the forest track was much thicker and much closer than it is today and the trees formed a veritable tunnel above the track, so that nothing could have landed on the latter from the air.

For those who are interested in these types of correlations, we note once more the close proximity of the witness to the Dolmen (only four metres from her at the moment of the encounter, and located on a ley). Furthermore this is not the only time that this sort of close encounter has been reported from a place right inside a wood. On the banks of a lake called Le Lac du Der Chante-Coq, in a forest, also in the Département of Haute-Marne, at the end of January 1975 and the beginning of February 1975, several witnesses observed a white humanoid form over two metres in height, and luminous globes moving about near the ground. At one point two of the witnesses found themselves at a distance of three metres from an opalescent globe emitting a powerful beam of light just above their heads.

We would also mention another case that took

*(Concluded opposite)*

## POOLE "HAMBURGER"

*(Continued from page 20)*

interviewed each boy separately and all appeared most sensible, honest and anxious to recall the details of their experience as accurately as possible for our benefit. Vincent Jones, however, although giving his version of the events to the best of his ability, appeared somewhat disinterested in the affair and our interview with him was the least productive of information. Why, if they had fabricated the story, should his attitude be so less enthusiastic than the others, yet telling basically the same story?

Our opinion is that no deliberate hoax was perpetrated, but that the boys witnessed a phenomenon totally outside their normal experience and therefore had difficulty in relating the details without inconsistencies in their reports creeping in. We see these inconsistencies as confirmation rather than denial of the presence of a true unknown.

**Editor's note:** An account of the incident was published in the *Poole & Dorset Herald* for the week-ending November 29, 1980. In it Abdul Shahid was reported as saying — when interviewed by the reporter at his school — that he would not like to see a UFO again.



*Photo courtesy of Poole & Dorset Herald*

**From left: Abdul Shahid, Richard Gillson and Lee Perkins, three of the UFO spotters.**

place in the same area of Haute-Marne and in the same year, 1956. Between 7.15 and 7.30 p.m., local time, on September 27, 1956, at Darmannes, Monsieur Pierre C—, resident at Chaumont, was travelling along the Route Nationale No. 65, when he was paralysed with astonishment at the sight of an enormous blue disc-shaped UFO with a dome and portholes emitting a bluish light of the brightness of magnesium. The eyewitness experienced a number of physi-

cal effects: he felt as though being immersed in a "bath of frying oil," and his hair stood on end. The engine of his car cut out and his lights failed.

A little earlier on the same evening, a carpenter returning home to Chaumont in Haute-Marne along Route Nationale 67, saw an enormous luminous mass which took off and flew away, terrifying him.

Recently there has been a certain recrudescence of UFO phenomena around Nogent-en-Bassigny.

## World round-up

### Republic of China (Tibet)

#### "Saturn" UFO changes rotation

From the *Mainichi Daily News* of Friday, August 7, 1981, we learn that—

"An unidentified flying object (UFO) was sighted on July 24 in the northern part of the sky over Tibet, Peking's *Xinhua* news agency reported Wednesday.

"Quoting a meteorological official in the region, it said a bright object which appeared to be about the size of a table tennis ball, [*apparent size to observers, not actual size?* — EDITOR], surrounded by a ring of blue-white light of variable brightness, moved from east to west at an estimated speed of 120 kilometers per minute for seven minutes.

"As it moved, he said, the center of the object brightened and began rotating in the opposite direction to the movements of its surrounding rings, which began to dim and widen at the same time.

"He observed six rings during the first three to four minutes and the outermost ring grew to between 20 meters and 30 meters in diameter.

"As the center dimmed, the rings faded but then the brightness of the ring of blue-white light around the object increased, the official said.

"He added that the object emitted no sound."

Credit: Yusuke J. Matsumura of Yokohama, Japan.

### India

#### University lecturer blames it all on UFOs!

The following item is taken from an un-named English-language newspaper (possibly the *Times of India*)

and is datelined "New Delhi, December 11th" [1981]—

"If you live in Delhi you should know that you have been a victim of the havoc wrought by what scientists term unidentified flying objects (UFO). Meet Mr. Swadesh Kumar Trikha, physics lecturer, Delhi University.

"You produce a disaster, any disaster — from tidal waves to train accidents, to power failures or even floods — and the lecturer will produce a UFO.

"Mr. Trikha has been chasing a UFO which unleashed a tornado in 1978 in the capital and was first 'sighted' by Mr. Shatrughan Shukla of model town.

"Mr. Trikha, working on the premise that the object ejected radioactive waste, investigated the path of the university tornado with a geiger counter and 'discovered that the areas of maximum destruction registered 50 to 55 per cent higher radioactivity than the surrounding areas.' The Miranda house library wall displayed a large black patch previously unnoticed by the librarian, apparently caused by a concentrated energy burst from the UFO.

"Excessively high radioactivity had been recorded in other parts of the country visited by disasters: the trans-Yamuna colonies cyclone in 1979, the ensuing destructive hailstorms, the Machu dam burst, Ganga Yamuna floods, the Andhra Pradesh cyclone and tidal wave, the U. P. mass power breakdown and even the June 1981 train disaster in Bihar where the carriages fell into the Bagmati.

"Addressing a national seminar on the UFO mystery yesterday at the department of physics and astrophysics, Mr. Trikha said in hushed tones that UFOs were being used by foreign

### of news and comment about recent sightings

countries (and even other planets) for 'environmental warfare' and 'international spying.' The device is reputedly 'very clear,' as on one occasion it skipped over a three-storey building. 'Had it hit the building we would have caught it,' he said."

Credit Jal N. D. Tata of Colabar, Bombay, India.

### Brazil

#### Did UFOs kill four hunters?

The American tabloid, the *National Enquirer*, carried a sensational story in its issue of December 29, 1981, in which claims were made that four Brazilian hunters from the town of Parnarama (p. 3000) in the northern part of the country, had separately suffered violent death meted out by a UFO, or UFOs. The local police chief, Geraldo dos Santos Magela, told *Enquirer* staff writers Muldoon and Richman, that—

"As police chief it's my job to verify these reports, to determine if the deaths were caused by a UFO or if the reports were products of the imagination. Imagination... no. It was a UFO.

"The men died while the UFO was directly above them, and the other hunters with them were terrified. They came to me asking for help.

"At first I didn't take the reports seriously. But by early November, when the entire region was in a panic, I had to take them seriously."

Details of the gruesome deaths followed.

"The first hunter was killed on October 17. The victim, Abel Boro, went hunting with a friend, Ribamar Ferreira. They saw what appeared to

be a bright star — but then it descended and hovered over the two terrified men, focusing its light on Boro.

“When it descended it was so bright that night became day,” Ferreira told *The Enquirer*. “I got frightened and climbed down from the tree I was in — my favourite hunting spot.

“The UFO cruised around us and stopped right above the tree Abel was in. It was like a giant truck tire, all lit up and spinning around and doing something bad to Abel, because he was shaking with fear.

“I decided to run for help, but then I heard the screams from Abel. I turned around and saw all that light from the UFO was surrounding him and his body was all glittering.

“I don’t know how I managed to run, but I got home and passed out. The next morning I went to Abel’s house and he hadn’t come home. His family and I went to the spot (where he had last seen Abel) and there he was — dead. His body was all white.

He didn’t have a drop of blood in him. The UFO — it sucked Abel’s life, like a space vampire.”

The next report told how Anastacio Barbosa stated that he and his friend Raimundo Souza ran for their lives when a large object dropped from the sky and beamed a light at them in the woodlands. Raimundo tripped and fell, and before he could rise the light focussed on him. Barbosa prayed, and ran. Raimundo’s body was found next morning: it was totally white.

The third victim was José Vitorio, who was lying in a hammock in the woods, with his hunting companion nearby. Suddenly a flying object descended over the hammock and shone brightly. The companion ran for help, but when they returned Vitorio was found to be dead.

The witness to the fourth killing was José dos Santos who fired five shots at a UFO which, he alleged, was chasing him. He contrived to escape.

Dos Santos had seen a friend working at the top of a hill when an object appeared and shone a beam of light at him. Said Santos: “He received a shock and came rolling down the hill. He went crazy for three days. He was terrorised. Then he died.”

Credit: **Gerald Garces** of Rialto, California.

*[Our only wish is that responsible local investigators could double-check such a seemingly crazy story. There is evidence in the “Enquirer” account of much hysteria in the town, and among its officials, and we are left with a suspicion that the police chief supports the UFO theory either as a cover for his actual line of enquiry, or because he has no other ideas. The main difficulty, of course, is that enormous distances are involved, even for Brazilian investigators who, if they were based in Rio de Janeiro, would be faced with a journey of about 1200 miles each way, and into some pretty wild country, — EDITOR.]*

# MAIL BAG

**Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender’s fullname and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.**

## UFO flap in Turkey

Dear Mr. Bowen, — Since mid-December 1981 a major UFO-flap has been occurring over Turkey. As this phenomenon is still continuing with most interesting sightings being reported from certain regions of Turkey nearly every day, I have not been able as yet to finalise its documentation. Therefore for the present I can

only give you an outline of the said flap in the form of a list of sightings.

Although the UFO-flap has stirred much excitement among the Turkish people, and the state officials at Aksaray, Niğde called for a thorough scientific investigation at the site, on January 14 two scientists tried to deny the phenomenon on TV without even taking the trouble to visit the locations. And just before the scientists’

TV interview began, a UFO appeared over Havsa, Edirne, and next day, as listed above, three sightings occurred one after another in central, western and north-western Turkey. In the long run I hope to document the Turkish flap in detail, and send you a copy of my report.

This UFO-flap is certainly related to the Supreme Function Turkey is going to carry out in the very near

Date	Location	Time	Brief Info
from 15 Dec '81 till 9 Jan '82	Aksaray, Niğde	mostly around 7.30 pm	mostly a bright egg-shaped object
late Dec '81	Mugla	?	— — —
1 Jan '82	Adana airport	7.00 pm	Saucer-shaped
4 Jan '82	Istanbul	11.30 pm	Alt: 100 m. — Green
6 Jan '82	Eceabat, Canakkale	?	Bright objects
10 Jan '82 and 14 Jan '82	Havsa, Edirne	around 9.30 pm	Egg-shaped at 500 m. Mushroom shaped
15 Jan '82	a-) Niğde b-) Havsa c-) Izmir	7.30 pm 9.30 pm 11.30 pm	Elliptical Two bright objects Flaming object

future. Please watch out for the events and phenomena due to occur in and over Turkey.

Yours sincerely,  
**Halûk Sarıkaya, the Director,**  
Science Research Center,  
Istanbul,  
Turkey  
January 18, 1982

**A little good news is as good as a tonic!**

Dear Sir, — Enclosed is a cheque from a colleague who has finally decided to buy his own copies as a result of reading the appeal in one of the recent issues of F.S.R. It may be worth repeating it. Perhaps if you asked for suggestions from regular readers you may receive some that have real merit. Yours faithfully,

**A. Smith,**  
Aberdeen,  
Scotland  
January 18, 1982

*[Welcome to the colleague! Meanwhile, any suggestions from regular readers? — ED.]*

**A thought for this issue**

Dear Mr. Bowen, — The group of people who will first manage to harness the fear of cosmic forces, and emotions surrounding UFO contact, to a political purpose, will be able to exert incredible spiritual blackmail.

I hope that FSR will report on the events in Brazil in a future issue.

Our friends in Parnarama may be trying to put something over on us. Could this be a re-enactment of the "UMMO Affair"?

Yours sincerely,  
**Jerry Garces,**  
270 S. Rexford St.,  
San Bernardino, CA. 92376, U.S.A.  
January 29, 1982

*[The alleged encounters at Parnarama, State of Maranhão, Brazil, are included in our World Round-Up column elsewhere in this issue — ED.]*

**Corrections from  
Dr. P. M. H. Edwards**

Dear Mr. Bowen, — Might I just point out three small errata? —

1. Page 8, line 28 right side, please change "another-craft" to read:

"mother-craft."

2. Page 9, line 55 left side, please add the word "to" at the beginning of the line, — to make sense.

3. Page 11, line 10 right side, it says: "(see arrows on diagram)"; but you or someone omitted to print Grant's diagram of the "interior of the circular room in which he found himself, in his dream"; so those words in parentheses refer to a non-diagram!

Yours sincerely,  
**P. M. H. Edwards,**  
3835 Clarndon Road,  
Victoria, B.C., Canada V8N 4A4  
February 11, 1982

*[I regret the fact that the phrase "see arrows on diagram" was not deleted. The diagram was omitted for two good reasons: first there were considerations of space availability; secondly, I found it rather complicated and confusing, and as both our available artists were out of action at the same time, and the task was left to me, I decided to leave well alone and rely on the written word! — EDITOR]*

**The Rendlesham affair and  
the "recession in UFO reporting".  
Also the Hastings UFO Explanation**

Dear Sir, — I wish to comment on two items in the current issue of FSR (Vol. 27, No. 4).

On page 21 Gordon Creighton adds a footnote to the Juan Benítez article on 1980 Spanish cases requesting to know where the evidence is for a December 1980 British UFO wave. I would refer Gordon to my "A Policeman's Lot" article in FSR Vol. 27, No. 2, where I make reference to the period November 21 to 28, which seems to have been the focus of the wave so far as Britain is concerned. During that period (unparalleled in my recollection as an active investigator) a remarkable number of high strangeness cases were squeezed into a few days. They included two contact cases (the only ones in 1980), a radar-visual over Flyingdales early warning station, two chases (one involving police across several counties), an object over a North Sea Oil Rig and an EM interference/animal disturbance low level object in the East Midlands. Some of these have been in FSR, others will no doubt appear in due course. In December itself, there was relatively little activity but there was the intriguing affair at Rendlesham Forest.\*

In my opinion this burst of activity is exceedingly important for several reasons. Firstly, there was *no* media stimulus for it. The fact that a knowledgeable (but not investigative) ufologist, such as Gordon, had no inkling that a mini-wave had occurred, proves the point in itself. What is more it came during a year when UFO sightings were almost non-existent (about 150% fewer than in a mundane previous year). Almost all the important UFO events to occur in Britain during that year (and for most of 1981 for that matter) were sandwiched into this tiny time slot.‡ It can scarcely be coincidence, I would argue. And I would like to see a sociological or psychological theory that can explain it too! In my current writing project, *UFO Reality*, I make play on this fact, suggesting that it is truly one of the most significant pieces of evidence we have of a genuine *external* enigma. For this kind of mini-wave has happened before and is never recognised until afterwards. I coined the term "Crazy Days" to cover such eventualities. If, as Juan Benítez says, the phenomenon was repeated in other parts of northern Europe then the importance is doubly emphasised. Would Sr. Benítez care to produce a report on the progress of this wave for FSR? I might then produce one on the pattern of the UK "Crazy Days." The comparison would be rather interesting, and I think rather important.

Secondly, I would refer to reader Mrs. P. M. Tustin's letter and press cutting about the Royal Greenwich Observatory and their "explanations" of UFO reports, in particular the case of October 4, 1981, from Hastings, reproduced in FSR on page 25.

It might interest Mrs. Tustin, and other readers, to know that not everyone at Greenwich seeks to cast doubt on ufology. Indeed I do not know if anyone does. For Phillip Taylor, one of the scientists there, is in fact a UFOIN investigator! Phillip (no relation to the Taylor cited in the newspaper item) investigated this case for us and produced a marvellous case study which proves beyond all reasonable doubt that the two women *did* view the moon (just as his Greenwich colleague had admittedly "guessed", when asked for an "instant quote" by the press). Phil finds this conclusion hard to understand, to say the least, because the case is a complex one with severe physiological effects. Neither witness believes him, of

course. But the facts of the matter give no room for doubt. His investigation is actually of considerable importance to ufology (and will be published somewhere I trust). For it throws into doubt the whole question of the UFO/IFO interface and leaves me just as baffled as Phil as to *how* the moon can conceivably lead to such a fantastic observation. I doubt very much that the answer is as simple as some sceptics would like us to believe.

Finally, I would express my appreciation (on behalf of many British investigators I am sure) of Charles Gibbs-Smith and his work. His loss deepens the sadness of an already sad year, for late 1981 also saw Britain lose Dr. Geoffrey Doel, for a long time a faithful servant to scientific ufology in this country.

Yours sincerely,  
**Jenny Randles,**  
Birchwood,  
Cheshire  
February 3, 1982

#### Editor's notes

*\*This will be included in (probably) the next issue of FSR, when the heavy*

*volume of sub-editing that is needed can be undertaken.*

*‡I suggest, with all due respect, that all this would seem to confirm everything Gordon Creighton and I have been saying, or writing, during the past two years; it certainly doesn't refute it.*

#### On sawn-off "cigars"

Dear Sir, — I very much enjoy Mr. Creighton's articles in FSR. He does so much for Ufology by being able to translate from so many languages.

I have just read his article *A Gigantic "Cigar" over the Atlantic*, (FSR Vol. 27, No. 3). I have had about five reports from people who described long cylinders with "cut-off" ends, which they thought were anything from 400 ft to over 1,000 ft in length.

The report which I think would interest you most was given to me by a Mrs. Watt-Preen. This lady's mother was aged 93 when I interviewed them both in Sussex. In 1903, in the old days of the British *Raj* in India, the mother was living in a bungalow on the Nilgiri Hills in south-western India. She told me how, at about 2.00

p.m. on a very sunny, warm, clear day, she was standing on her verandah when "... a long, long cigar-shaped gleaming craft sailed majestically past the house. Along the entire length of the centre part of the machine were white railings. It passed over the garden, and quite close to the verandah."

Another report of a "cigar-shaped craft" came from a Mr. Roger King whom I met around 1962-1964. He told me that at dusk on July 17 or 18, 1955 he had been taking his dog for a walk through fields, woods, and open countryside near his home at Meopham, Kent, when he suddenly began to feel uneasy, "as though being watched." Then he noticed that the hairs on the dog were standing up stiff. He looked around and up, and there, to his horror, was a long cigar-shaped craft with "rounded, squarish" windows along its full length, which he estimated to be more than one and a half times the length of a field — about 300 to 400 ft, he thought. He could see at the windows the shadowy figures of beings seemingly watching

*(Concluded at foot of page iii)*

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## A 1949 BRAZILIAN CONTACTEE — Part 1

*Richard W. Heiden*

**The claims of Senhor Restier, eyed suspiciously by researchers, were first presented in FSR Vol. 22, No. 4, in a short item by Gordon Creighton based on a newspaper report, and entitled "Soaking wet 'space flight.'" The detail was far from complete, and even date and place were not known.**

**T**HE witness in this interesting case was a 23-year-old bachelor named Mário Restier, who lived and studied in Barra Mansa, in the Brazilian state of Rio de Janeiro. Although it took place back in 1949, the incident was not made public until 18 years later, and the full story has not been told in English until now.

Mário was returning home from his father's place in Volta Redonda (also in the state of Rio de Janeiro) on the afternoon of December 4, 1949. He had not gone too far when, at 5.00 o'clock, he noticed a discoidal object 15 metres in diameter and 12 metres tall. It was silently flying over a group of trees, to land 10-15 metres from the highway. Surprised, he was even more startled to hear a voice saying (in Portuguese) "Don't be afraid. Do you want to know what it is? We know that you trust us."

As Mário approached (he realised he would not be able to escape anyway), a door in the craft opened and two crew members, about his height (just over 1.65 metres) appeared and beckoned to him in a friendly

manner, as if inviting him to enter. They had a type of Roman skirt, and a round cap or helmet covered their heads.

The first thing that Mário asked them was if they believed in God, to which they immediately replied, "God is only one." Having more courage, the young man entered the saucer, being led through a corridor to a room with panels full of screens, squares, and buttons. When some of these buttons were pushed, diagrams appeared in the luminous phosphorescent squares that explained the locomotion of the space ship.

They invited him to take a trip. Mário responded that he would accept on the condition that they bring him back safe and sound. They agreed, and put him, dressed as he was, in a type of urn or bathtub, full of a liquid they said would eliminate the discomfort of large accelerations and also nourish the body. Only his eyes and nose stayed out of the liquid.<sup>1</sup>

Hearing the crew say they were going to take off,

Mário quickly fell asleep. When he woke up they told him they were already arriving. They asked him to come out of the urn, and took him to an adjoining compartment, where his soaked clothing and wet body immediately dried, as though by magic. They gave him to wear the same type of clothing as they had (which caused a very pleasant sensation on the body), and also identical shoes, which had wires connected to a wide belt that formed part of the clothes.<sup>2</sup>

Looking out one of the portholes, Mário saw that they were arriving at a type of space-port, from which were coming and going ships just like the one that had brought him. He looked around at his travelling companions and was startled to see them seated on a sofa, with heads and trunks bent forward, motionless, completely "switched off," as if they were two dolls.

At that moment the door opened and some people, kind and smiling, greeted him, uttering with a musical voice Portuguese phrases like "We are pleased with your coming . . . You are the third . . . We are at your service!" It was explained to him that they learned our languages by picking up our radio and television transmissions. The people were all tall, between 1.80 metres and 2 metres in height, and radiated good health, good humour, and happiness, so he was sure they were flesh-and-blood beings, and not robots like the other ones. They were dressed like the two robots, however, in greenish-coloured outfits with a wide pocket on the left side.

They took Mário to visit some factories and various stores. He walked on the streets, but during the stroll he saw people also walking some 10 metres up in the air. The clothing of these people was between blue and green in colour. The eyes (which were black or green) and nose of the residents of the planet were normal. They had small mouths; Mário did not take notice of any teeth. They lacked body hair, and wore a type of cap on their heads. The percipient saw pretty-looking women and also children, whose hands were always held by adults — he did not see any children playing by themselves. Vehicles glided on suspended roads.

Mário entered a large museum where there was a

room reserved for the planet Earth, which, strangely enough, was labelled "EARTH" in Portuguese ("TERRA," which is also the Latin word), next to which was a word in the language of the planet. They pushed some buttons, projecting on a screen images related to earthlings — our character, our feelings of ambition and violence, and our level of evolution. They told him that thousands of millions of years ago Earth had been near their planet. When an enormous celestial body approached, Earth was taken away to another solar system. They also said that their world was near the constellation Orion (our name for it), and that Russian astronomers had already located it.

They answered Mário's questions by saying that Einstein's theory is correct, but with some small restrictions: that the Universe was finite and space was curved; in their vehicles they could not travel straight nor leave Space, which, however, could be accomplished by the "vital energy of the body" (which Mário thought might mean the soul). They also spoke of the possibility of "several vital cycles," which he interpreted as a possible reference to reincarnation.

Gigantic transparent domes, through which was seen a blue sky, completely covered the city. No sun was seen, but there was a diffused illumination that seemed natural. The average life span of the people there was 300 Earth-years, because they ate purified food that did not leave residues. Mário ate some in a meal in a small room in one of the factories — it tasted like candied squash.

#### Notes

1. Cf. Betty Andreasson. See Raymond E. Fowler, *The Andreasson Affair*, Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1979, pp. 71-72.
2. Cf. "Tiny" the MIB, reported by John A. Keel. See Keel's article in *Flying Saucer Review* special issue no. 2 (June 1969), "Beyond Condon . . ." p. 60, and his book *The Mothman Prophecies*, Saturday Review Press (E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc.), New York, 1975, p. 91. Also Ivan T. Sanderson, *Uninvited Visitors*, Cowles Education Corporation, New York, 1967, p. 163.

[This article will be concluded in our next issue — ED]

## MAIL BAG

(Continued)

him, and light was beaming down from the windows. The object was only about 100 ft above him, and it followed silently as he and his dog ran for dear life across the fields, over a stile, and across a road and up the slope of Meopham Green to his house, "The Old Forge." As he and the dog stumbled in through the door, the

machine was right over some of the houses on the Green. Mr. King said he drew all the curtains and hid in terror. He was quite alone in the house at the time.

A further local account of large cigar-shaped objects came to me from Mr. Ronald Neal of Swanley, Kent, who reported that, also on July 17, 1955, he (aged 15 at the time) had been playing a ball game with his friend Colin Drayton (aged 10 at the time) when they saw "two enormous

cigars" high in the sky, being circled by six smaller craft, all also cigar-shaped. The two boys had stood for a while, watching the scene, until finally all eight objects had climbed so high that they were lost to sight.

Yours faithfully,  
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